FBIS DAILY REPORT

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U.S., PRC CONSPIRE TO CREATE PUPPET STATES IN ASIA

LD290948 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1300 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Reports in many Asian press organs say that the U.S. CIA placed at Beijing's disposal American information about North Vietnamese provinces right before the Chinese aggression against Vietnam. Such contacts between the Central Intelligence Agency and Beijing can be traced everywhere in Asia, particularly at the spots where modern Chinese Mandarins try to foist their will upon nations and governments, seek domination in politics, economy or are eager to realize their territorial claims.

There is no doubt that national security bodies in northeastern regions of India, in Burma and Bangladesh have at their disposal information showing that the Maoists and CIA agents have for several years been in close contact and coordinated all major operations which were aimed at destabilizing the existing status quo and at undermining sovereign governments. It is generally known that there are several dozens of secret camps in the mountainous regions of China bordering with India, Bangladesh, Burma, where all kinds of rebels and separatists are trained in sabotage and subversive activities so that they could set up pro-Beijing ministates on territories torn away from these countries. According to Indian data, a whole army more than 10,000 separatists strong has been trained at these camps. The Indian newspaper AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA says with reference to well-informed sources that these camps are frequented by American intelligence officers. U.S.-made arms designed for guerrilla warfare in mountains, ammunition and explosives are dispatched there through CIA secret channels.

The natural question arises: What are the Maoists and American secret agents after in almost inaccessible Himalayan regions? What makes China, which is supposed to be a fighter against imperialism, and the most reactionary department of the leading imperialist powers plot together? The answer can be found in some CIA papers which have recently been made public. American agents in India are given orders to get in contact with representatives of various political trends and groups and to spread the Maoist idea to set up an independent state in the Himalayas which will include part of the Indian Assam State, the Mizo Hill area, part of Burma and the Chittagong Hill (?tracts) which is part of Bangladesh.

The creation of such puppet states which will be an obedient tool in the hands of alien forces suits both Beijing and the United States. They realize that the present normalization of the situation in South Asia, goodneighborly relations among the states in the Hindustan, reduce the possibilities of alien forces which for many centuries have been applying the divide-and-rule principle in South Asia.

First manifestations of the detente process on the Asian Continent are closely connected with the mounting struggle of nations against dominance of the imperialist monopolies and the West's plunder activities. At the same time Asia, living in accordance with the principles of peace, endangers the great power ambitions of the Chinese leadership who do not give up their attempts to dominate South and Southwest Asia. Hence the surprising unanimity of interests of Western imperialist circles and Beijing which would like to preserve hotspots on the continent as a counterbalance to pan-Asian unity and cooperation and to put additional barriers on the road to social and economic progress in Asia.

The present Beijing leaders openly declare their fidelity to Mao's idea that China has the right to get all Asia and to command all Asian resources.

The United States in its turn does not lag behind and openly proclaims its right to defend the U.S. strategic and economic interests in Asia at all costs, which exclude any concern for the interests of the Asian states. To make a long story short, attitudes and the general outlook of American and Chinese expansionists are as similar as the goals of beasts of prey when they flock together.

CAMBODIA'S HUN SEN SENDS PROTEST MESSAGE TO WALDHEIM

LD281040 Moscow TASS in English 0905 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] New York, March 28, TASS--U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim has received a message from the foreign minister of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, Hun Sen, protesting against the fact that the secretary general accepted credentials from a representative of the overthrown clique of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary. In his message Hun Sen stresses that the acceptance by Kurt Waldheim of credentials from a representative of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique is interference in the internal affairs of Kampuchea and a violation of the U.N. Charter, this action only meets the interests of the Beijing expansionists who are tryirg in alliance with imperialists and other reactionaries to find a way of breathing life into the politically dead regime of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary. It is stressed in the document that it is only the People's Revolutionary Council and the United Front for National Salvation of Kampuchea that can appoint Kampuchea's representatives to the United Nations and other international organisations.

SWISS INTENTION TO JOIN UNITED NATIONS REPORTED

LD282356 Moscow TASS in English 2131 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Berne, March 28, TASS--An official statement on Switzerland's intention to joint the United Nations was published here. The government instructed the Political Department to carry out the preparatory work for Switzerland's entry in the United Nations. This question will be discussed in parliament and will later be put to a nation-wide referendum that will be held not earlier than in 1981.

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION BANK COUNCIL MEETS IN MOSCOW

LD271810 Moscow TASS in English 1735 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 27, TASS--The 49th meeting of the Council of the International Bank for Economic Cooperation was held here. The meeting was attended by delegations of the member countries of the bank council: Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the USSR, Czechoslovakia as well as representatives of the Secretariat of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and the International Investment Bank. The meeting of the bank council was also attended by representatives of the Da Afghanistan Bank, Banke Melli Afghan, the African Development Bank, the National Bank of Ethiopia, the People's Bank of Yugoslavia and the National Bank of Croatia.

The Council examined and endorsed the report of the bank for 1978--the 15th year of its activity--and the balance of the bank by January 1, 1979, presented by the board of the bank passed a decision on the distribution of returns for 1978, and examined a number of other issues concerning the current and further activity of the bank. The meeting of the bank council was held in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and full mutual understanding, says the communique of the meeting.

BOMB-CARRYING SOVIET CITIZEN DEMANDS ASYLUM IN U.S. EMBASSY

LD281926 Moscow TASS in English 1912 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

["Incident at U.S. Embassy in Moscow"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 28, TASS--It has been learned from a report by competent Soviet authorities that about 15 hours Moscow time today, not far from the building of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, the 2nd secretary of the embassy Mr. Pringle met with an unknown citizen and, upon greeting him with a handshake, led him into the building of the diplomatic mission. Soon afterwards councillor-minister at the U.S. Embassy Mr. Garrison telephoned the USSR Foreign Ministry to say that "an unknown Soviet citizen" who penetrated the building, was behaving excitedly and threatening to explode a bomb unless he was given asylum. Mr. Garrison asked the Soviet authorities for help in removing the man from the embassy building.

Members of the militia sent to the site of the incident met an official of the embassy and the man, who at first refused to speak to them, but then repeated his demand as well as the threat to actuate a 2 kg explosive device made by him in case he was refused. The Soviet representatives having exhausted all means of persuading the man to leave the building of the American diplomatic mission, suggested that the embassy permit them expel him by force. U.S. Ambassador Malcolm Toon gave his consent. As a result of measures undertaken at the request of the U.S. Embassy by the militia, the unknown person led into the building of the diplomatic mission by the embassy's Second Secretary Pringle, was rendered harmless.

When in the embassy, the offender threatened to carry out an explosion unless his demands were accepted.

U.S. MILITARY BUILDUP, PLANS FOR ALLIANCE IN MIDEAST HIT

LD282129 Moscow TASS in English 1935 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

["Threat to Peace in the Middle East"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, March 28, TASS--Analysis of the "peace treaty" and its supplements signed in Washington convinces observers that the peoples of the Middle East will have to pay heavily for As-Sadat's complete capitulation. A spokesman of the U.S. defence ministry said that the first group of American military experts had arrived in Israel. He added also that it is planned to move an additional U.S. Airforce contingent to assist the redeployment of Israeli Air Force units from Sinai.

The weekly U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT notes that immediately after the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Sinai the United States will start negotiations with Cairo on the transfer of one of their bases to the U.S. so that American military power in the Middle East would be more impressive.

Furthermore, as pointed out today by the Washington STAR, the Pentagon is stepping up the implementation of its plans to create the fifth fleet, which will operate mainly in the Arabian Sea, off the coasts of the petroleum-rich states. At the same time, as reported by the New York TIMES, the U.S. defence ministry is "activating" its Sixth Fleet, stationed in the Mediterranean Sea. The newspaper notes that from now on this fleet will be able to use bases at Haifa (Israel) and Alexandria.

Simultaneously with the military build-up, Washington is knocking together under its aegis a military-police alliance based on the Israel-Egypt axis. The United States intends to charge this bloc with police functions linked with the protection of U.S. interests in the Middle East. An inalienable part of the Israeli-Egyptian deal is the U.S. administration's consent to increase sharply its arms deliveries to the regimes of As-Sadat and Begin. The Pentagon intends to accelerate, primarily, the rearming of the Israeli military machine. Already in January 1980 Israel will get the first lot of the seventy-five F-16 fighter planes, which the United States promised to deliver it. As noted by the press, the 4,500 million dollars is only a lesser part of the "dollar pie", to which Washington will treat its partners under the military alliance. According to some estimates, the Washington POST says, the separate deal will cost the American taxpayer 19,000 million dollars already in the next five years.

Part and parcel of the Washington administration's efforts to rearm its clients are the measures to enhance Tel Aviv's military-industrial potential, for which the Sinai oil will be used, among other things. By signing the treaty, Egypt has confirmed, in fact, that it is no longer the master of this oil, which will feed the Israeli military machine. The British FINANCIAL TIMES says that Israel will start drilling this week a new oil well in Sinai, the first of the three it plans to put into operation.

WASHINGTON DISSATISFACTION WITH OPEC DECISION UNJUSTIFIED

LD281520 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1200 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The U.S. State Department has expressed its strong dissatisfaction with OPEC's decisions to increase the price of oil effective 1 April by approximately 9 percent. The State Department regarded this decision, which was reached at the OPEC meeting in Geneva, as unjustified and untimely. However, one might ask: Why should these countries consult the United States about what they should do with their own natural resources? When and by (?what standard) should the price of oil be fixed? Who has given the U.S. State Department the right to preach to the countries of OPEC?

Washington, it appears, continues to use old concepts dating back to the time when the imperialist oil monopolies used to rule the roost. Now, the majority of these countries has total or [words indistinct] control over their oil wealth and [words indistinct] to a great extent from the activity of the imperialist oil monopolies. Undoubtedly, this is not to the liking of imperialism at all. The imperialists are trying by every means, even through the use of military force, to suppress and crush the will of the nations striving to be the full owners of their own oil. Such attempts are being checked, however, thanks to the increasing and cohesive resistance of the OPEC countries. Here it should be (?said) that the imperialist monopolies have never thought, when continuously increasing the prices of their expensive products, of the effect of these increases on the countries purchasing these products, particularly the OPEC countries, and that such actions by the monopolies absorb up to 20 percent of the revenues of the OPEC countries, which have increased the price of their oil by less than 9 percent.

Desire for Retaliation

LD282050 Moscow TASS in English 2010 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Washington, March 28, TASS--The decision of the OPEC nations to raise oil prices has aroused deep anxiety in Washington. A spokesman of the State Department declared that the United States regarded it as untimely and unwarranted.

Economic experts believe that the raising of oil prices will accelerate the rates of inflation in the United States and increase the country's trade balance deficit in 1979 by 2,400 million dollars. It is common knowledge that the United States satisfies 45 percent of its crude oil requirements through import. What is more, 80 percent of the imported oil comes from the OPEC countries.

The idea of a so-called "military solution" of the petroleum problem by increasing U.S. military presence in the Middle East is being voiced ever more frequently in the Defence Department and the Department of Energy which is closely linked to it. As reported by the newspaper Washington POST, plans are already being drawn up in the Pentagon for this purpose. The generals, the newspaper points out, qualify the policy of the Arab states in the oil question as "economic war against the West." This is why some military strategists believe that the United States should deal a retaliatory blow, the Washington POST writes.

Suggestions are now being made in the United States to "undermine the OPEC." Thus, the HARPERS magazine published an article by the director of the New York Council for Energy Policy, Carpel, who suggests ten ways to destroy the OPEC. The author moves to take a whole line of measures to undermine this organization, specifically, to introduce a system of licencing U.S. manufactured goods delivered to the OPEC countries. As to the sale of U.S. weapons to oil-producing countries, the author stresses, it must be conditioned on their long-term policy to meet the U.S. energy requirements.

This reaction of Washington to the OPEC decision is an attempt to put the blame on the other side. It is precisely the inability of the Western states to curb inflation and resolve their monetary problems that tells painfully on the economic situation in the OPEC countries. Furthermore, as stressed by the French newspaper LE FIGARO, the future of the petroleum market today "depends to a lesser degree on the exporting countries, than on the purchasing nations, primarily on the United States, which bears the main responsibility for the current difficulties."

Oil Monopolies Responsible

LD282042 Moscow TASS in English 2007 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

["Resisting Monopoly Diktat"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 28, TASS--TASS commentator Sergey Stoklitskiy writes:

It was with hostility that the West met the outcome of the Geneva conference held by oil and petroleum industry ministers of the member-countries of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), who decided at Geneva to raise by 9 percent the current basic crude oil price of 13.3 dollars per barrel (159 litres) setting it, as of April 1, at the level of 14.5 dollars a barrel, just as OPEC members, who convened late last year at Abu Dhabi, had planned to introduce at the end of this year.

This is the argument emphasized today in the West. U.S. State Department spokesman Hodding Carter referred to the measures adopted by OPEC as "untimely and unjustified."

The New York TIMES, THE FINANCIAL TIMES of London and some other organs of the "free press" were not particularly choosy of expression. They put all the blame for the current situation on the capitalist oil market, for the inflation, for the energy crisis in the West, squarely on the oil producers, while as usual, leaving the activities of the multinational oil capital in the shadow.

Meanwhile, this capital should bear the blame for the indignation of Western fuel consumers. As a matter of fact, having conceded (not without a stubborn struggle) the key positions in the sphere of fuel extraction to OPEC countries, the oil monopolies to this day continue to hold in their hands some 4/5 of oil and oil products purchased from this organization, and their sales to the final consumer.

Late last year, having bought up at obviously reduced prices a huge amount of fuel from the petroleum extracting countries, the oil companies were in no hurry to put it on the market, thereby artificially creating a shortage of fuel and boosting demand for it respectively. With similar selfish purposes, the oil corporations took advantage of the events in Iran, when Iranian oil temporarily stopped reaching the world market. Having awaited a convenient moment, the corporations began selling oil at prices by 50 percent higher and at times even more, than the price established by OPEC at its Abu Dhabi conference.

It is not because of a false sense of modesty that the oil tycoons today prefer to keep silent while they count up their profits, "earned" through speculative manipulations with the "black gold."

Meanwhile, it is well-known that the American Exxon, a major Western oil corporation, hopes to increase its profits by 25 percent at once over the similar period of last year already in the first quarter of this year, which means some 850 million dollars. The total profits of the oil monopolies are measured in many billions of dollars.

In these circumstances the decisions of the OPEC countries should be regarded as a quite natural and justified desire to curb the piratic actions of the oil monopolies. Moreover, following Iran's example, a number of participants in the Geneva conference called for rejecting the predatory mediatory "services" of the oil corporations. This is important, for it testifies to the unfolding of a new broad onslaught against the neocolonialist practices of the Western oil companies.

COMMENTATOR VIEWS SUPPRESSION OF RIGHTS IN PRC

LD281518 Moscow TASS in English 1315 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

["Beijing: What Is Concealed Behind Talk of 'Democracy'"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 29, TASS--TASS political commentator Sergey Kulik writes:

Foreign correspondents report from Beijing that the Chinese press published lately a number of materials expressing concern over the increased activity of the population which demands ensurance of its elementary rights and daily needs.

Thus, the Shanghai newspaper JIEFANG RIBAO was compelled to recognize once more the fact that serious unrest erupted among young people in this major city of the PRC in December of last year and continues to flare up now and then to this day. In Hangzhou young people who were deported to inland areas during the "Cultural Revolution" staged, according to THE FINANCIAL TIMES, stormy demonstrations when coming to visit their parents on a holiday, and refused to go back. FRANCE PRESSE reported that thousands of peasants arrive in Beijing from all over China, demanding justice. RENMIN RIBAO threatened those workers who "leave their work places in production" to protest against violations of their rights.

The Chinese people's discontent with the criminal aggression against Socialist Vietnam is expressed in various forms, including wall posters, which are not controlled by the authorities. Many of those who expressed such discontent were persecuted and arrested. As is known, the authorities banned any manifestations of a negative attitude to the intervention in Vietnam and imposed tight restrictions on the population's contacts with foreigners in order to prevent "any leak of information" on the real attitude of the Chinese people to the anti-Vietnamese venture.

Analyzing all these manifestations of public discontent in China, most of the foreign observers come to the conclusion that the very social and economic conditions in China compel the masses to come out more actively with the demands for doing away with Maoist practices, arbitrary actions and improving their economic position.

It was no by means a coincidence that these demands grew more insistent lately with the beginning of China's aggression against the SRV. This aggression was an eye opener to many rank and file Chinese who were duped by official propaganda and who now clearly saw the real aims of the Beijing mandarins, the direction of their thinking and policy. This aggression made them think whether the leaders of the PRC were going to keep their rather vague promises made to the working people at the third plenary meeting of the CPC Central Committee towards the end of last year.

Faced with growing discontent among the workers and peasants, mass unemployment, especially among young people, the PRC rulers then promised to the people to "take into account their material needs and interests," and to "guarantee democratic rights." But hardly a few months passed and they in Beijing quietly gave up these promises, the FINANCIAL TIMES reports. Thus, they confirmed that the main aim of Mao's heirs in carrying out the policy of "four modernizations" is to build up China's military and economic potential, and to turn it into a militaristic superpower by freezing the living standards of the population.

Speaking recently in Beijing Deng Xiaoping even tried to formulate in the same spirit his concept of the term "democracy." According to a FRANCE PRESSE report, he interprets democracy as an opportunity of making proposals for the implementation of the "four modernisations."

As if interpreting this statement of Deng, the Beijing newspaper BEIJING RIBAO published on March 22 an article in which it asserted in effect that the notion of the "individual rights" is allegedly incompatible with socialism, which JIEFANG RIBAO criticised those who come out for the "development of the individual." The newspaper wrote: "The correct way to free one's mind is to remain loyal to Mao's ideas and to subordinate oneself to the tasks of implementation of the 'four modernisations'".

It is not ruled out that the rival factions in Beijing deliberately play on the well-justified discontent of the masses, on the promises of a better life for them and promises of ensuring law and order by directing public discontent against their political rivals. The Japanese press repeatedly pointed to the fact that the campaign for the rehabilitation of the leading cadres who suffered from arbitrariness during the "Cultural Revolution" is being exploited by Deng Xiaoping for strengthening his own positions and for squaring personal accounts.

Thus, facts go to show that they in Beijing are trying with the help of demagogy and methods of direct intimidation to silence the malcontents and to subordinate all the social and economic life of the PRC to a policy of further militarising the country and realizing the Chinese leadership's hegemonistic aims in the international arena.

MOSCOW CONFERENCE ON FALSIFICATION OF HISTORY OF MAOISTS OPENS

LD271046 Moscow TASS in English 1027 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 27, TASS--"Topical problems of struggle against Maoist falsifications in history" is the theme of a scientific conference which opened in Moscow today. It is held by the Academy of Sciences of the USSR and the Academy of Social Sciences under the CPSU Central Committee.

The aim of the conference is to lay bare the Maoist falsifications of history aimed at asserting great-Han chauvinism and bound to justify the hegemonic desires and the expansionist policy of the present Chinese leaders. The conference is attended by scientists of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

The introductory speech was made by Konstantin Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. On the program of the conference are reports devoted to criticism of Maoists' falsifications of the main stages of the history of the USSR, the People's Republic of China and other countries, particularly those neighbouring on China, the history of the Second World War.

The conference will be in session for three days.

JAPAN WARNED AGAINST PRC-BACKED KURILS 'EXPANSION'

LD281111 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Mar 79 p 5 LD

[V. Bolshakov "Rejoinder": "If a Broom Is Too Short"]

[Text] Citing the weekly TOKYO KEIZAI, Japan's AKAHATA has revealed sensational details about the talks which Deng Xiaoping, vice premier of the PRC State Council, held in Tokyo in February during his stopover on the way home from the United States. The Chinese "No 1 hawk," as the Western press has dubbed him, urged Tokyo to "use the Self-Defense Forces along with U.S. Armed Forces" to implement revanchist schemes regarding the Kuril Islands. And here Deng "promised assistance from China," the newspaper writes.

Deng Xiaoping obviously lacks political commonsense. The most recent evidence of this is the Chinese aggression against Vietnam, which was prepared under his personal leadership and has proved an ignominious defeat for the Beijing authorities. It must be assumed that the Beijing visitor's interlocutors in Tokyo were realistic enough not to fall for this folly. As for Beijing and those militarist circles in Japan which would like to utilize the Japanese-Chinese treaty and the U.S. rapprochement with China as a springboard for territorial expansion, let us recall an ancient Chinese saying: "If a broom is too short, you cannot use it to remove cobwebs from the ceiling." There is an equally expressive equivalent of this proverb in Russian: "Just you try!"

EC OFFICIAL DEMANDS REDUCTION OF TRADE DEFICIT WITH JAPAN

LD270834 Moscow TASS in English 0725 GMT 27 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Tokyo, March 27, TASS--Urgent reduction in the tremendous deficit in the Common Market trade balance with Japan was demanded by the vice-chairman of the Foreign Political Relations Commission of the European Communities, Wilhelm Haferkamp at a meeting in Tokyo with Japan's Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda. The EEC representative pointed to the lack of mutual understanding between the countries of the Nine and Japan because of the unbalanced trade between them. Sonoda did not give any specific pledges concerning the leveling of trade with the West European countries, but on his part, asked them to cancel their discrimination against Japanese exports.

COMMENT, REPORTAGE ON AFGHAN 'COUNTERREVOLUTION' CONTINUES

Situation Analysis

LD282327 Moscow TASS in English 2250 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 29, TASS--Under the headline "Conspiracy Against the Afghani People" today's PRAVDA published the following article by Aleksey Petrov:

The socio-economic transformations which are carried out by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in the interests of the working masses, meet with broad support among country's population. For the first time in its age-long history, the Afghani people has gained the possibility to participate in the solution of problems concerning it, and to define the road of Afghanistan's further development. This course of events is not to the liking of those whose political, economic and spiritual domination is crumbling under the blows of the April revolution. This obviously does not suit the foreign sponsors of Afghani reaction and also some imperialist powers.

The enemies of people's Afghanistan met with hostility the reforms that are being carried out in the country. At present the feudals, landlords, money-lenders, the compradore bourgeoisie, the servitors of the monarcy, the reactionary part of the priesthood--those "parasitic elements" which, as the Kabul TIMES wrote, "exploited the people in different ways," have gone over from insubordination and sabotage to open armed struggle, to the organization of subversion and terrorist acts. The tactics of the counterrevolution is built in such a way as to utilize the sharpening class contradictions arising in the course of the deep-going social transformations, and the difficulties which the new cadres, at times lacking the necessary experience, have to face, to utilize the influence of religious superstitions and tribal strife.

The rebellion in Herat demonstrated that the reaction is prepared to resort to most extreme means of struggle against the people, including armed provocations and terrorism. Following the defeat of the rebellion, the counter-revolutionaries, without rejecting the plans to organize large actions, prefer the Basmach [civil war bandit] type of operations--sudden raids from bases situated mostly outside Afghanistan, and rapid retreat at the prospect of clashing with regular government troops. The bandits roam in the night, attack mountain villages and townlets, hide in ambush on the roads, blow up bridges.

As already reported in the press, the basic operative strong-holds of the Afghani reaction and the camps where with the participation of foreign instructors the bandit formations undergo training, are situated in Pakistan. It is there also that the main centres are situated which mastermind and coordinate the actions of individual groups and detachments sent into Afghanistan. One such centre is in the city of Lahore, Punjab Province.

It was there that a conference of Afghani reactionary leaders was held on January 18. It decided to form a "committee of struggle" which included such reactionary figures as Gull Hadin Hikkat, Yar Kah, Chkhamat Nabi Mohammadi and others. The conference set the timing for armed actions (including that in Herat). The way of conducting the subversive propaganda campaign against the democratic system existing in Afghanistan examined questions of interaction with representatives of "friendly states" supplying the conspirators with weapons, money, subversive materials. Such meetings, to which delegates of "friendly states" were invited, took place in a number of Pakistani towns in February and March.

At a regular press conference on March 24 a spokesman for the U.S. State Department complained that the Soviet press "groundlessly" blamed the USA of interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs. He stated that the U.S. will regard involvement from outside in Afghani internal problems as a serious matter potentially increasing tension and destabilizing the situation throughout the region.

Having proclaimed the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, the State Department spokesman evaded, however, a reply to the question of whether the U.S. itself intended to observe that principle. This evasion was apparently not fortuitous. For he would have to explain, for example, such a fact: On the eve of the Herat rebellion one of the ringleaders of Afghani counter-revolutionary forces paid a visit to Washington and was received at high level at the U.S. State Department, and he would probably have to express his attitude to some other facts. Meanwhile, the American side is not used to comment on involvement in these or other actions by the Central Intelligence Agency. Such involvement is usually denied or "diverting statements" are made aimed at befogging the essence of the matter. Afghanistan did not become an exception from the rule. CIA interference is masked through the use of proxies when maintaining contacts with the Afghani counterrevolution and financing it.

The CIA regards the reactionary Afghani organization of the "Moslem Brothers" which has gone to the northern regions of Pakistan, as the most "promising". It announced the intention to block up with anyone and back up any actions against the present people's regime in Afghanistan. The "Moslem Brothers" actually collaborate with the groupings of Maoist agents "Sholy Jarid" and "Shrha." Many members of these groupings underwent special training in China and were sent with the assistance of the Chinese authorities into the territory of Afghanistan for perpetrating subversive and terrorist acts.

One can hardly see Pakistan counting on any benefit from the utilization of its territory by the Afghani reactionaries and their foreign sponsors and accomplices. It might be that Pakistan found itself involved in the adventures of outsiders to a certain measure against its will. However, whatever the case, the bands of rebels and counter-revolutionaries are for the time being feeling quite comfortable in Pakistani territory. Their movements are not restricted, particularly when crossing borderlines. Converging in Pakistan are the main supply channels of the counter-revolution, without which it could not have survived even for a few weeks.

No, it was not for nothing that the leader of the National Democratic Party of Pakistan Bizenjo stated recently: "We are witnessing the presence in our country of certain groups which take the liberty of engaging in actions fraught with serious consequences for the cause of peace, stability, and security in South Asia." He went on to note that these reactionary renegades, who found a shelter in Pakistan, are using Pakistani soil for waging false propaganda and unfolding subversive activities against neighbouring Afghanistan. These people, he said, have always acted contrary to the interests of their country's popular masses and sucked their blood. After the people's democratic revolution kicked them out of Afghanistan, these renegades and their minions unleashed a campaign against the democratic government.

Connivance at the machinations of the Afghani reaction contradicts the friendly, goodneighbourly policy that was repeatedly proclaimed by the Pakistani leadership in regard to Afghanistan. The local authorities in neighbouring Iran are looking through their fingers at some actions by fanatical groups from among the Afghanis. Testimony to this, in particular, are the attacks perpetrated in recent days on the DRA Embassy and consulate in Tehran and Mashhad.

A broad anti-Afghani propaganda campaign is carried out from the territory of a number of Western countries and those adjacent to Afghanistan, urging the forcible overthrow of the government, interference in the internal affairs of that independent state. Hostile radio propaganda is spreading assertions that Afghanistan will soon become, don't you see, the "16th Soviet republic", and alleges that the USSR is striving for that. There is no end to such vicious fabrications, all of them having nothing in common with reality, and intended for gullible people whom they want to mislead and incite against the Soviet Union, a friend of the Afghani people.

"The imperialists, who in fact never recognize the right of the peoples to the free determination of their destinies, to social progress," noted Leonid Brezhnev speaking of the victory of the Afghani revolution, "hastened to put in circulation the worn-out legend about 'the hand of Moscow'. These fabrications are slander on the policy of the USSR and, at the same time, an insult to the freedom-loving Afghani people with whom we are bound by strong ties of sincere friendship and mutual respect."

Soviet-Afghani friendship has stood the test of time. The Soviet Union was the first state to recognize independent Afghanistan when it shook off the colonial yoke. The USSR has given its neighbour unselfish aid in economic development, in resolving technical and transport problems, in developing its natural wealth. And today, at a difficult time for Afghanistan, the Soviet Union is on the side of those who are defending the country's democratic gains, who uphold the interests of the Afghani people.

Religious Freedom, Soviet Solidarity

LD281944 Moscow TASS in English 1735 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 28, TASS--"The time has come in Afghanistan when real possibilities are present for the implementation of the age-old dream of the popular masses, namely, to build a society without exploitation of man by man," says the weekly NEW TIMES.

"The republic has bravely embarked upon the road of liquidating social and economic inequality, democratization of all spheres of life. The government has given special attention to the question of religion: There was not a single instance when the feelings of Moslems were hurt, their right to perform religious rites impaired.

"The Afghan people are becoming ever more convinced daily that the April revolution hands out the promise of a new and free life. This infuriates the domestic and external reaction. It is not by word of mouth, but in practice that the government has embarked upon the road of liberating the Afghan people from exploitation. This is borne out most vividly by the consistency with which the state is carrying out the land reform. Its purpose is to do away with the feudal system once and for all, to end the many-age-long injustice and class oppression in the countryside. Control over the country's economic life will be wrested once and for all from the hands of the feudals and their allies, will be transferred to the working people"..

"After the April revolution Afghanistan is steadfastly advancing along the road of peaceful coexistence with all states. This foreign policy course, based as it is on principles of non-alignment, is actively backed by the Afghan working people," the NEW TIMES continues.

The genuinely popular, anti-imperialist April revolution of 1978, which altered abruptly the age-old history of Afghanistan, has raised the traditional good relations between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan to a qualitatively new, higher stage, and, what is particularly important, has imparted new class content to it. According to Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidum of the Supreme Soviet of USSR, today this is no longer mere goodneighbourliness, but a deep, sincere and durable friendship, permeated by the spirit of comradeship and "revolutionary solidarity".

The Soviet people solidarize with the courageous struggle waged by the Afghan people in defence of their revolutionary gains, the NEW TIMES stresses.

Speeches by Taraki, Amin

ID282015 Moscow TASS in English 1955 GMT 28 Mar 79 ID

[Text] Kabul, March 28, TASS-Addressing an extraordinary meeting of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, Nur Mohammad Taraki, chairman of the council and general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, said: Imperialism, forces of international reaction and leftwing extremists are endeavouring to aggravate the situation in our country. These forces have embarked upon the road of interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. The Afghan people are compelled to take resolute measures to defend their homeland, the gains of the revolution, the people's system and the interests of the working people of Afghanistan. The DRA Revolutionary Council has endorsed the bill on the formation of a Supreme Defence Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Kabul, March 28, TASS--It is perfectly well-known throughout the world that the April revolution of 1978 in Afghanistan was a revolution of the people. Its victory has rid Afghanistan once and for all of oppression and exploitation, placed it in the ranks of the progressive countries of the world, it was stated by Hafizollah Amin, prime-minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, who spoke on the Afghan television. All the revolutionary and progressive reforms in the country are being carried out in the interests of the Afghan working people. They are being approved and backed by all the Afghan people.

The foreign policy of Afghanistan, Hafizollah Amin continued, is based on the principles of peace. We need peace to ensure the welfare of our homeland. We regard the continuation of the policy of active participation in the nonalignment movement as our contribution to the cause of consolidating international peace. We do not interfere in the internal affairs of other states, and, at the same time, we shall not tolerate any foreign interference in our domestic affairs. The working people of our country, he stressed, are prepared to administer a resolute rebuff to the intrigues and conspiracies of imperialism and reactionary forces.

The prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan stressed that friendship and goodneighbourly relations between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union which exist for more than 60 years, now, corresponded both to the interests of the working people of Afghanistan and the interests of the Soviet Union. The Soviet-Afghan relations he said, are growing stronger and developing, which has found vivid confirmation in the treaty of friendship, goodneighbourliness and cooperation between the USSR and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan recently signed in Moscow. The prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan highly evaluated the Soviet People's assistance to the people of Afghanistan.

Afghan Muslim Council Leader Interview

LD281804 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The Western mass media, in a bid to discredit Afghanistan and its democratic reforms, have accused its government of denying the people freedom of worship and, in particular, of persecuting Muslims. Our correspondent Viktor (Baslevich) has wired us this report from Kabul.

At a mosque in Kabul I met the leader of the Afghan Supreme Muslim Council, (Abdol Aziz Saddiq), and asked him what the country's Muslims think about this.

The Western media, certain Pakistani circles and the British Broadcasting Corporation promote malicious slander against the Afghan Government, said (Abdol Aziz Saddiq). They are trying to create the impression that there is no religious liberty in the country. This campaign of falsehoods has nothing to do with facts. The Government of Afghanistan has a deep respect for the people's customs and traditions and for their religious feelings. All Afghan Muslims can perform their religious rites. The government makes no distinction between believers and nonbelievers. All citizens enjoy equal rights.

Our enemies, (Abdol Aziz Saddiq) went on to say, claim that in Afghanistan the believers can't visit mosques and pray. This is a falsehood. The people wholeheartedly support their government. The Western media claims Afghan mosques are closed and Muslim priests cannot preach, said (Abdol Aziz Saddiq). This is a lie too. Every Muslim in Afghanistan can perform religious ceremonies and read religious books. Radio Kabul every day reads excerpts from the Koran, (Abdol Aziz Saddiq) said. Far from putting obstacles in the path of Islamic religion the country's government gives all kinds of support for believers and cares for their needs.

I wish to tell all those who are slandering the Muslims and government in Afghanistan--don't interfere in other people's affairs, (Abdol Aziz Saddiq) said in conclusion. Afghanistan is our homeland and we shan't let anyone hamper us in building a new and happy life.

COMMUNIQUE ON THAI PREMIER'S TALKS IN USSR PUBLISHED

LD291111 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Mar 79 p 1, 4 LD

[Apparent text of "Soviet-Thai Joint Communique"]

[Text] Gen Kriangsak Chamanan, prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, paid an official visit to the Soviet Union from 21 through 27 March 1979 at the invitation of the USSR Government.

In addition to Moscow the prime minister and the persons accompanying him visited Leningrad. They had the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the Soviet people's way of life and the Soviet Union's achievements in the economic, scientific and cultural spheres. The lofty guest from Thailand and those accompanying him were given a friendly welcome everywhere, for which they expressed their profound gratitude.

During his stay in Moscow the head of the Thai Government laid wreaths at V.I. Lenin's Mausoleum and the tomb of the unknown warrior.

Gen Kriangsak Chamanan, prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, was received by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Talks were held between A.N. Kosygin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, and Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan, in which the following participated:

On the Soviet side--N.S. Patolichev, USSR minister of foreign trade; S.A. Skachkov, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov, chief of the armed forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister; N.P. Firyubin, USSR deputy foreign minister; Yu.I. Kuznetsov, USSR ambassador to Thailand, and I.A. Rogachev, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Southeast Asia Department;

On the Thai side--Deputy Prime Minister S. Hongladarom; Foreign Minister U. Pachariyangkun; Interior Minister L. Naeomali; Agriculture and Cooperatives Minister P. Kannasut; S. Bunyakhup, minister to the prime minister's office; Industry Minister K. Chatikawanit, Deputy Commerce Minister P. Amaranan; Gen Soem Nanakhon, commander in chief of the armed forces, and S. Sathianthai, Thai ambassador to the USSR.

During the talks, which were held in an atmosphere of frankness and mutual understanding, there was a broad exchange of opinions on various aspects of bilateral relations, as well as on important international problems of mutual interest.

The sides confirmed the intention of the Soviet Union and Thailand to continue on the path of strengthening good relations and cooperation in the interests of the two countries' peoples. They expressed their intention to continue developing these relations as broadly as possible and agreed in principle to expand economic, commercial, scientific and technical relations on the basis of equality and mutual advantage.

It was also pointed out that expanding contacts between the two countries' peoples in various spheres such as exchanges of parliamentary visits, exchanges in the spheres of culture and sport and the development of tourism will help to deepen comprehensive relations and mutual understanding between them.

The sides noted with satisfaction the coincidence or proximity of the positions of the USSR and Thailand on many international problems and emphasized their determination to continue efforts aimed at strengthening peace and international security, averting the threat of war or the use of force in relations among states and insuring peace, stability, security and economic progress of the peoples and states of Southeast Asia.

The Soviet Union and Thailand confirmed their desire to continue making efforts for the purposes of easing international tension and developing cooperation among all countries.

The sides confirmed the importance and urgency of resolving the problem of curbing the arms race and implementing effective disarmament measures. In this connection they voiced support for the recommendations adopted at the UN General Assembly special session on disarmament and their readiness to cooperate with other countries with a view to implementing them. The sides emphasized that the rapid conclusion of a new Soviet-American agreement to limit strategic offensive arms would be a major contribution to the cause of ending the arms race.

The two sides consider it necessary to continue making efforts in the interests of strengthening peace throughout the world, including Asia, and developing cooperation among all countries on the basis of the principles of sovereign equality, nonuse of force, inviolability of borders, territorial integrity and political independence and noninterference in the internal affairs of other states. Proceeding from the two sides' profound interest in insuring peace and stability in Southeast Asia, the Soviet Union and Thailand will maintain mutual contacts and hold consultations with regard to constructive measures which can promote progress toward that goal.

The Thai prime minister declared the Thai Government's determination to pursue an independent foreign policy based on the principles of peaceful coexistence and directed toward strengthening friendly relations with all countries irrespective of their political, economic and social systems for the sake of peace, progress and prosperity. The Soviet side received this statement with satisfaction and believes that Thailand could make a constructive contribution to the cause of insuring peace and stability in the region.

The Thai side reported on the activity of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) aimed at developing regional economic, social and cultural cooperation among the states belonging to it. The Soviet side stressed that the Soviet Union, consistently opposing closed military-political and economic blocs, takes into consideration the statements by leaders of ASEAN member states to the effect that they seek the development of regional economic, social and cultural cooperation and that the association is not military in nature. The Soviet Union declares its readiness, in relations with the states belonging to the association, to deepen mutually advantageous ties which would help to strengthen peace and security in Asia. The Soviet side regards positively the idea put forward by Southeast Asian countries on creating a peace zone in that region.

The two sides expressed serious concern at the tension existing in Southeast Asia, which is fraught with serious consequences for the cause of peace and the security of peoples in the region. They stressed the urgent need to find a peaceful and just resolution in order to restore peace and stability in the region.

The sides expressed the intention of continuing to exert every effort to promote the elaboration of a new convention at the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea. They consider it important that substantial progress be achieved toward this end at the next session of the conference.

The two sides consider it necessary to seek a restructuring of international economic relations on a just basis, which would promote the establishment of a new international economic order based on respect for national sovereignty and on the principles of equality and mutual advantage. They express the hope that the forthcoming fifth UNCTAD session in Manila will promote progress toward this goal.

The Soviet Union and Thailand agreed to continue to work toward further strengthening the effectiveness of the UN Organization in maintaining universal and lasting peace, strengthening the peoples' security and promoting international cooperation in accordance with the UN Charter.

The sides expressed satisfaction with the exchange of views which took place and stressed the usefulness of maintaining personal contacts between leading figures in the two countries. They expressed readiness to exchange opinions on a regular basis on questions of further developing bilateral relations, as well as on important international problems of mutual interest.

Thai Prime Minister Gen Kriangsak Chamanan conveyed to A.N. Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, an invitation to pay an official visit to Thailand. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

PRC PEACE TALKS 'TACTICS', ABSENCE OF SCHEDULED TALKS CITED

NHAN DAN, VNA Comment

LD281720 Moscow TASS in English 1635 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, March 28, TASS--The ruling circles of Beijing are dragging out the opening of Chinese-Vietnamese talks and, at the same time, are making gross and slanderous statements about the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. This tactic, it is stressed by the Vietnamese news service, has the purpose of misleading world public opinion and diverting attention from the Chinese hegemonists' criminal aggressive actions against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The agency reports that Chinese troops continueto hold more than ten points in the territory of the northern provinces of Vietnam. Most of them are on motor roads and railways. These facts give the lie to Beijing claims that all Chinese troops have been withdrawn from Vietnamese territory.

Hanoi, March 28, TASS--The slander and lies to which the ruling circles of Beijing resort are daily becoming ever more importunate and brazen, it is pointed out today by the newspaper NHAN DAN, organ of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, In its note of March 26th the Foreign Ministry of China again says that the Chinese troops had been allegedly "completely pulled out of Vietnamese territory on March 16th." It claims that at the present time "there is not a single Chinese soldier on Vietnamese territory," and that China "sincerely wishes to begin negotiations as quickly as possible."

Reality, however, fully refutes these hypocritical pronouncements. As recently as March 23rd, the article says, units of the Vietnamese Army had been capturing Chinese soldiers in Hao An district, which is ten kilometers away from the provincial center of Cao Bang.

The Chinese troops, the newspaper notes, still remain today in the territory of the Vietnamese provinces of Lang Son, Cao Bang, Hatuyen and Hoang Lien Son.

While leaving its troops in the captured territories, the Chinese side is continuing, at the same time, to concentrate its forces near the border, is shelling Vietnamese territory. Parallel with this, Beijing is escalating its interference in the domestic affairs of Kampuchea, is threatening Laos, creating tension in Indochina. Furthermore the Chinese side is distorting the policy of Vietnam in the light of its own slanderous inventions. It has brazenly declared its "right to deal a retaliatory blow."

The above-said actions of the Beijing ruling circles show that they are continuing the policy of lies, do not wish to start negotiations, and continue to resort to the war threat. We are prepared to conduct negotiations, the newspaper stresses. However, the Chinese side must withdraw all its troops from the points where they still remain, and then the negotiations could begin on the very next day.

QUAN DOI NHAN DAN Comment

LD290918 Moscow TASS in English 0855 GMT 29 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, March 29, TASS--The talks between Socialist Vietnam and China, scheduled for today, were not held by fault of China, the newspaper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN says. China has not yet fully withdrawn its aggressive troops from Vietnamese territory. At the same time Beijing continues issuing false statements to the effect that "not a single Chinese soldier is on Vietnamese soil."

Beijing's ruling quarters do not want talks at all. Their statements on readiness to hold talks is but a disguise to fool world opinion, an attempt to avoid diplomatic isolation. Beijing's state policy lies in using war for the annexation of Vietnamese territory. The Chinese side, the newspaper says, bears the full responsibility for the frustration of the talks, scheduled for today.

VIETNAM'S NGUYEN DUI TRINH L'HUMANITE INTERVIEW CITED

LD281610 Moscow TASS in English 1559 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, March 28, TASS--The deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the SRV Nguyen Dui Trinh stated that Beijing's reactionary circles are doing their utmost to draw the governments of a number of countries into the campaign of slandering the SRV with the purpose of concealing their crimes in Vietnam and for interfering in the internal affairs of Kampuchea and Laos.

The urgent task today, he told a correspondent of the L'HUMANITE, is to step up the struggle and defeat Beijing's aggressive and criminal policy regarding the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Lao People's Democratic Republic. This is the only way in which the expansionist policy of the Beijing ruling circles can be prevented from spreading to the entire area of Southeast Asia.

The Chinese authorities, the minister noted, who pursued a policy of annexation of Kampuchea and aggression against Vietnam, have suffered a grave defeat. Their policy has been sternly condemned by world public opinion and caused the discontent of the Chinese people.

At present Vietnam and Kampuchea are strengthening their militant solidarity in the struggle against the common enemy--great-power hegemonism and expansion by China's ruling circles, Nguyen Dui Trinh underlined. We are strengthening solidarity in the struggle for our independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. At the request of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea, Vietnam agreed to the presence of its armed forces in the People's Republic of Kampuchea in order to help the Kampuchean people to defend its motherland.

The question of the presence of Vietnamese armed forces in Kampuchea concerns these two countries alone, and is decided by them. Cooperation and mutual aid between our countries in every field are based on the principles of voluntary consent and reciprocal respect for independence and sovereignty. Their aim is to uphold the revolutionary gains of each of the sides. Our relations correspond to the spirit of the U.N. Charter as well as to the goals and principles of the nonalignment movement, the minister stated.

VCP'S XUAN THUY THANKS USSR FOR SUPPORT

LD282244 Moscow TASS International service in Russian 1352 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Excerpts] Hanoi--"Xuan Thuy, secretary of the Vietnam Communist Party [VCP] Central Committee, has received a delegationof the Soviet public which is present here.

"The victory over the Chinese reactionaries, he stressed, was the common victory of our peoples, a triumph for the Soviet-Vietnamese treaty of friendship and cooperation, and a triumph for the whole of progressive mankind."

"An important factor in the victory of the Vietnamese people," noted the secretary of the VCP Central Committee, "was the mighty support of the people of the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries, which took up Vietnam's cause from the first moment." Xuan Thuy expressed heartfelt gratitude to the CPSU and the USSR Government, and to the whole Soviet people for their constant aid and support for the just cause of Socialist Vietnam.

TASS REPORTS ON SOVIET TRAINING OF VIETNAMESE WORKERS

LD282340 Moscow TASS in English 2014 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Kiev, March 28, TASS--Today, the vocational training school in Zaporozhie, the Ukraine, training workers for steel plants of the fraternal country has been presented with the Vietnamese Order of Friendship and an honorary certificate of the Government of Vietnam. During the recent ten years the school trained about 680 Vietnamese youths. Fifty trainees are now being trained to become steel workers, electricians and operators of precision equipment and automatic machines.

Cooperation between the USSR and Vietnam in the training of workers and specialists began in 1968. By 1980, the number of workers trained in the USSR for Vietnamese national economy will reach 12 thousand people. These will be skilled workers representing 70 professions.

Many Vietnamese boys and girls who got their training in the USSR are already working at steel plants, in coal and other mineral mining industries, in building, transport, power industry as well as ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy.

Another important form of Soviet assistance to Vietnam and training its national cadres of [words indistinct] is technical assistance in the setting up of training centres. The Soviet Union supplies equipment and textbooks. Last year, for instance, two more training schools were opened in Vietnam. They are training steel workers and miners. In the coming years two more similar centres will be built in Vietnam. Construction has begun of a centre to train tractor and bulldozers operators for agriculture.

The Soviet Union will provide assistance in the construction of a training school which will train builders and workers for chemical industries of Vietnam.

CAMBODIAN INDUSTRY, AGRICULTURE, CITY LIFE TO BE RESTORED

LD280851 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Mar 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Correspondent M. Ilinskiy reportage: "Kampuchea: Light After the Gloom"]

[Text] Phnom Penh--The Kampuchean people who have lived through the nightmare of the Pol Pot terror are for the third month now putting all their efforts into building a new life in their land. This creative and noble mission is being successfully implemented under the leadership of the People's Revolutionary Council and the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation [KNUFNS].

With every passing day the republic's capital--Phnom Penh--is being transformed. Work on the restoration of production at the city's main industrial enterprises is in full swing. The elimination of the grave aftermath of the criminal pro-Beijing clique is, naturally, not proceeding without difficulties. And it is not just that the equipment of many enterprises has been destroyed and plundered over past years. The main trouble is that the Pol Pot secret police butchered and wiped out a large section of Phnom Penh's old working class.

(Pu Ronay), who has been elected chairman of the self-management committee of the Phnom Penh soft drinks plant which is, incidentally, one of the capital's largest enterprises, told us of the terrible crimes committed at the plant by the Pol Pot authorities. The director was a man by the name of (Sum). This 33-year-old murderer, who was never without his revolver and leather whip, strutted around the shops accompanied by secret police and personally killed more than 10 workers.

"Soon after Pol Pot came to power," (Pu Ronay) continued, "a group of 12-13-year-olds was driven to the plant. 'You will train them,' the older workers were ordered. Scarcely had the boys begun to acquire a very slight familiarity with the equipment before they were put to work at a machine and the senior worker was killed. 'The natural succession of the generations,' director (Sum) laughed. This was what happened at other enterprises, too. Only isolated senior cadres survived. They have now been laden with an enormous amount of work in restoring the enterprises and resurrecting the Kampuchean working class...."

In turn (Tea Nguon), a machine operator from Phnom Penh's (Chiptong) textile factory, told us that prior to 17 April 1975 about 750 people worked at the enterprise. During the years of Pol Pot's rule over 70 percent of the workers were killed. "If that rule by the pro-Beijing murderers had gone on for another 4-5 months," (Tea) said, "none of the senior workers would have remained alive." (Tea) had five children. Three of them have died. The youngest was only 16. He also worked at the (Chipton) textile factory. One day the boy fell ill. A secret policeman said he would send him to a hospital. "I never saw my boy again," the old machine operator ended his terrible tale.

I heard similar stories on many occasions.

Who were these Pol Pot murderers? I saw about 70 former secret police agents--("Soansrok")--in a Phnom Penh jail. They were captured by the public and handed over to the organs of the people's power. One of Pol Pot's fanatics, a certain (Mankkhuan), admitted that he had personally killed over...2,000 people.

You will say: It's beyond belief! It is hard to imagine that a man can kill that many people. But that is precisely what happened. (Mankkhuan), even in appearance, is more reminiscent of an animal than a human being. He has virtually no forehead, a brush of skimpy mustache, and evil, piercing eyes.

When asked by an interrogator how he dealt with the people, (Mankkhuan) bared his teeth and uttered a few words as if spitting them out: "I killed them with just one blow on the head from an iron rod...."

Over 2,000 blows from an iron rod ended over 2,000 human lives!

Another ("Soansrok"), 25-year-old (Samun), admits to having committed only...250 murders. His favorite weapons were the spade and the mattock. You see, he even brought them specially from the village, fearing he would not find "exactly the same implements" in the city. "I killed primarily those wearing spectacles," (Samun) solemnly stated. "All those wearing spectacles must know how to read and therefore have harmful thoughts," the ("Soansrok") murderer concludes.

"We will try all these criminals," I was told at the Phnom Penh People's Revolutionary Council.

Organs of local people's power have now been formed throughout Kampuchea's territory. According to still incomplete figures, by mid-March about 1,200 people's self-management committees had been created in rural areas. In practice the people's committees are now working in all districts and provinces. In April the mass settlement of the cities will begin. Inhabitants will return first to the provincial centers. And Phnom Penh will receive returning families on a mass scale after May 1979.

The workers of the People's Revolutionary Council explained that in the first months after the liberation a census must be urgently carried out and people must be provided with food, clothing, transport and tools. But for the moment it is easier to do this in the rural areas. But in the cities, in addition to this, reliable water supplies, the power distribution system and medical services must be established as a first priority, and hospitals and first aid points must be set up again. This will prevent mass epidemics and make it possible to avoid famine. The restoration of industrial enterprises will make it possible to give people employment.

City-dwellers are now assembling at populated points along the highways leading to Phnom Penh. There are already several tens of thousands of them. I saw representatives of the people's power registering them, providing them with essentials, helping them to make inquiries about relatives, and recording their professions and level of education.

In Kandal Province in whose territory Phnom Penh is situated the census has been virtually completed. About 200,000 inhabitants recently driven from their home settlements by Pol Pot's regime have returned home and are embarking on peaceful labor activity. The local people's self-management committees have already compiled plans for agricultural production for 1979.

I visited many districts of this province but it is perhaps in Muk Kompmul that life is returning to normal most rapidly. Representatives of the people's masses elected their own revolutionary committee immediately after the historic 7 January victory. (Tan Kim Tkhay) has become its chairman. The members of the committee are directly concerned with all questions of the normalization of life in the district and its 13 communes.

"The top-priority task was the district's population census," (Tam Kim Tkhay) said. "We tackled it successfully. There are now 56,030 people living in the district while before 1975 there were over 72,000 inhabitants. Over 16,000 people were killed by the Pol Pot supporters."

Since the victory of the revolution and the country's liberation from Pol Pot's tyranny, the Kampuchean people have been strengthening their peaceful fraternal cooperation with neighboring states. Solidarity among the peoples of the three countries of the Indochinese Peninsula, as the leaders of the new Kampuchea have repeatedly stressed in their speeches, was a great force in the prolonged struggle against imperialism and world reaction.

The combat solidarity between Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea is an historically objective fact. And no enemy can break this solidarity. The ambassadors of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Lao People's Democratic Republic recently presented their credentials in Phnom Penh.

China's criminal aggression against Vietname and the Beijing leaders' political provocations aimed at undermining Laos' independence and sovereignty are angering the Kampuchean people. Resolutely condemning the Chinese reactionaries' aggressive action, they demand the immediate cessation of all provocations against the Vietnamese and Lao peoples. The solidarity of the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea is unshakable.

SOVIET PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS OFFER FREE AID TO CAMBODIA

LD281452 Moscow TASS in English 1414 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 28, TASS--Soviet Red Cross, the Central Committee of the Soviet Komsomol, the USSR Committee of Youth Organizations will provde free aid to the population of the People's Republic of Kampuchea. They will send medicines, fabrics, and tents to that country. The aid will also include household appliances and footwear. School stationery is intended for the younger generation of Kampuchea.

The cargo will be delivered by a steamer.

BRIEFS

CULTURAL COOPERATION WITH AUSTRALIA--Moscow, March 28, TASS--A programme of cultural cooperation between the Soviet Union and Australia up to 1980 was signed in Moscow today. It envisages broad contacts in culture, science, education, cinema, television, sports, publishing business and copyright. Art exhibitions, exchanges of representatives of organizations of professionals, universities, museums of the two countries are planned to be held. The sides agreed to encourage the study of the Russian language, of Russian and Soviet literature in Australia and the English language and Australian literature in the USSR. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1227 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD]

POST ARTICLE ON BALKANS, BLACK SEA FERRY 'IMPUDENT'

LD280935 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Mar 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Unattributed report from "The World Today" feature compiled by B. Rodionov: "Mr Dobbs Is Raising Steam"]

[Text] The Washington POST has published an article sent from Belgrade by Michael Dobbs filled with impudent discussions of the two Balkan countries' politics. This work devotes two sentences to Bulgaria--sentences which the author juxtaposes: "In the light of possible disorders in neighboring Turkey (?!) Bulgaria is now acquiring great strategic significance. Last November the world's most sophisticated ferry was commissioned between Soviet and Bulgarian ports." At first glance Dobbs seems to be following the well-known proverb "the elder-tree's in the garden and uncle's in Kiev." But no. He wants to present the Soviet ferry-boat Geroi Shipki, built, incidentally, at a Yugoslav shipyard, to the reader on the banks of the Potomac as some sort of camouflaged battleship.

Mr Dobbs has evidently grown accustomed to gunboat diplomacy....

BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN SEND HUNGARIAN LEADERS CONGRATULATIONS

LD201806 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 20 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin have sent a message of greetings to Hungarian leaders Janos Kadar, Pal Losonczi and Gyorgy Lazar. The message says: Dear comrades, on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers and all Soviet people, we send you, the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP] Central Committee, the Presidium and the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic, and the fraternal Hungarian people cordial congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the proclamation of the Hungarian Soviet Republic.

In March 1919, the Hungarian proletariat and working peasants, as the working people of Russia had done first, threw off the hated yoke of exploitation and oppression. The Hungarian Soviet Republic, the creation of which was directly influenced by the Great October Socialist Revolution, was an important event in the history of the Hungarian People's revolutionary struggle and has entered as a bright page into the chronicle of the world communist and workers movement. The historical victory of their Hungarian class brothers was received with enthusiasm by the communists and proletariat of Soviet Russia, and by all peoples struggling for their social freedom. The proclamation of the soviet republic and the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat in Hungary was highly valued by Vladimir Ilich Lenin, stressing the great international importance of these events. The Great October Socialist Revolution and the proletarian revolution in Hungary have established the basis for the eternal unbreakable friendship of our people. The Russian proletariat's support for the soviet republic in Hungary and the participation of tens of thousands of Hungarian internationalists in the struggle for Soviet rule on the civil war fronts in Russia were a clear example of the implementation of the principles of proletarian internationalism and class solidarity in relations between the people of our countries, the message notes.

The glorious 133 days of the Hungarian Soviet Republic have played a great role in the development of the class consciousness of the Hungarian proletariat and have enriched it with the experience of a revolutionary struggle and socialist changes.

Its lessons were fully used after the liberation of the country when the working class of Hungary, led by the communists, took in its hands the fate of the homeland and in close union with working peasants and all working people confidently took the country on the path of building a new socialist state. Backward, agrarian Hungary--the country of 3 million landless peasants, the country of unemployment and suffering of the people--has disappeared forever. An advanced industry, progressive agriculture, creative energy of the people and high standards, successful advancement together with other fraternal countries on the path of socialism--this is the Hungarian People's Republic of today.

The principled and consistent policy of the MSZMP, which makes a valuable contribution to the theory and practice of socialist building, has won the profound esteem of Soviet people. Our party and all Soviet people are sincerely pleased with the successes of socialist Hungary. They see in them the results of our close cooperation and mutual assistance in order to achieve a common goal--the building of communism. The fraternal cohesion of the parties and peoples of the Soviet Union and Hungary, the unity of views on all basic problems of the present based on the firm principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, the unbreakable Soviet-Hungarian friendship have become important factors of communist and socialist building in our countries, a contribution to the cause of strengthening the unity and cohesion of socialist community countries, all communist and workers movements, and strengthening the position of peace-loving and progressive forces.

Celebrating together with you the 60th anniversary of the proclamation of the Hungarian Soviet Republic, the message of Comrades Brezhnev and Kosygin says, Soviet people wholeheartedly wish all Hungarian people great new successes in implementing the decisions of the 11th MSZMP Congress, in building an advanced socialist society and in the struggle for the victory of the great cause of socialism and communism. Long live fraternal, socialist Hungary! May the eternal, unbreakable friendship of our peoples strengthen and flourish!

Hungarian Thanks

LD231341 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 79 p 1 LD

[Text] To Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Comrade Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Dear comrades!

On behalf of the MSZMP Central Committee, the Hungarian Presidential Council and Council of Ministers, and all the Hungarian people, we cordially thank you for your comradely greetings and friendly best wishes on the occasion of the Hungarian Soviet Republic's 60th anniversary. The Hungarian Soviet Republic, which came into being influenced by the example of the Great October Socialist Revolution, laid the foundations of our parties' international relations, broad cooperation, and our peoples' friendship. We are proud that, together with the great Soviet people, we have fought and are fighting for international security, peace and social progress. We are firmly convinced that this will continue to be the case. With all our hearts we wish you and all the Soviet Union's working people further great successes in implementing the 25th CPSU Congress decisions, building a communist society and defending peace.

[Signed] Janos Kadar, first secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee; Pal Losonczi, chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers.

GISCARD HAILS FRENCH-USSR RELATIONS ON SOVIET TV

LD282158 Moscow TASS in English 1850 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 28, TASS--The interview of President of the French Republic Valery Giscard d'Estaing was broadcast today over the Central Television of the USSR. Pointing out that he is preparing to a new visit to the USSR, the head of the French state said: Summit talks always played a particularly important role in Franco-Soviet relations and each time promoted their success and became a new stage in the development of these relations. I am convinced that my coming visit to the Soviet Union during which we shall sign important documents will be successful, too.

First of all, what I have in mind is a political dialogue. This dialogue has become constant and refers to all the most important problems of our time. It has a frank character which is largely connected with those relations of confidence that formed between President Brezhnev and myself. We shall also discuss questions of bilateral cooperation. During the Franco-Soviet summit meeting in Rambouillet in the summer of 1977 we set the task of trebling the volume of our trade turnover. This is a very important task. If a number of projects discussed now are signed, we shall be able to fulfill it.

Thus, our coming meeting with Leonid Brezhnev must give a new impetus and become a new stage in the development of relations between the Soviet Union and France, said the president of the French Republic.

France and the Soviet Union demonstrated many times, and quite often jointly, their adherence to the basic principles of international detente, he went on to say. For France, the policy of detente is the permanent and most important factor that does not depend on some or other changes in the international arena.

This foreign policy course was solemnly proclaimed by our two governments, just as by other countries in the Final Act in Helsinki. Relying on what has been achieved we intend to act in the following three directions in order to strengthen peace, first of all, to strengthen detente in Europe. The second direction is to strive to ensure that the spirit and principles of the policy of peace and detente be spread to all trouble areas of the world. And, lastly, the third and very important direction is that of seeking the means for effective reduction of armaments in Europe and gradually bringing them down to the level that would suit only the legitimate needs of security of European states. On all these three points France is prepared for a profound discussion with the leaders of the Soviet Union since it is convinced that both our countries are called upon to play together an important role in promoting the cause of detente and peace.

Our new trip to the Soviet Union, Valery Giscard d'Estaing said in conclusion, gives me great satisfaction since it offers an opportunity for another meeting with the Soviet people and for expressing the feeling of friendship that the French people has for it.

UK LABOR GOVERNMENT DEFEATED IN CONFIDENCE VOTE

LD291022 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2328 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] London--The Labor government of Great Britain has fallen. By 311 votes to 310 the House of Commons of Parliament late last night passed a resolution of no confidence introduced by the Conservative opposition.

Immediately after the results of the voting became known, Prime Minister J. Callaghan announced that Parliament would be dissolved and a general election held in the country.

The government's defeat reflected the growing discontent in the country with the policy of the Labor leadership, its inability to solve the country's urgent socioeconomic problems, including the problems of inflation and unemployement. There is increasing opposition in the British Isles to government plans to increase military expenditures further and press ahead with the arms race at the expense of urgent social needs.

No small part in the outcome of the voting was played by the failure of the government's attempts to fulfill its election pledges and grant partial autonomy to Scotland and Wales. As a result of this, the 11 MP's who represent the Scottish Nationalist Party and who normally support the government in important votes on this occasion voted with the Conservatives.

PELSHE HEADS CPSU DELEGATION TO 15TH PCI CONGRESS IN ROME

LD290930 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 29 Mar 79 LD

[Text] At the invitation of the Central Committee of the Italian Communist Party [PCI], a CPSU delegation comprising Pelshe, Politburo member and chairman of the Party Control Committee of the CPSU Central Committee, the head of the delegation; Khristoradnov, CPSU Central Committee member and first secretary of the Gorkiy Obkom and Zagladin, CPSU Central Committee candidate member and first deputy head of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, left Moscow for Rome today to take part in the 15th PCI Congress.

At Vnukovo Airport, the delegation was seen off by Kirilenko, Politburo member and CPSU Central Committee secretary; Demichev, CPSU Central Committee Politburo candidate member and USSR minister of culture; and other officials.

BRIEFS

SPANISH AMBASSADOR IN KIEV--RATAU--Juan Antonio Samaranch Torello, Spanish ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the USSR, stayed in Kiev with his wife 16-18 March. The guest paid a visit to V.O. Gusev, Kievskiy Gorispolkom chairman, laid a wreath at the grave of the unknown soldier in the Eternal Glory Park, and familiarized himself with Kiev's historical and architectural monuments. As a member of the International Olympic Committee, the ambassador spoke to M.M. Baka, Ukrainian Sports Committee chairman, and inspected sports facilities in the republic's capital city. [Text] [Kiev RADYANSKA UKRAINA in Ukrainian 20 Mar 79 p 3 AU]

SOVIETS CONTINUE COMMENT ON, CRITICISM OF TREATY SIGNING

'Rejoinder' on As-Sadat Speech

LD290952 Moscow TASS in English 0835 GMT 29 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 29, TASS--PRAVDA today publishes the following rejoinder by Vsevolod Ovchinnikov:

"It happened on the lawn north of the White House during the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli 'peace treaty'. The ceremony proceeded smoothly, in the very meaning of the word, for the texts of the speeches, as is the custom, had been handed to the newsmen in advance.

This is, undoubtedly, one of the happiest moments in my life, As-Sadat began, praising the separate deal to the skies.

With their usual aloofness the numerous correspondents followed each line of the high-sounding speech, when suddenly they became wary. In his reading As-Sadat left out a whole paragraph, and a very important one, at that. Eyewitnesses, reporters of the Washington POST, describe this event by saying that the Egyptian president, obviously afraid of reviving once again the contradictions concerning the Jordan West Bank and Gaza Strip, populated by Palestinians, even deleted from his speech at the ceremony those words which urged President Carter to help the Palestine people.

The FRANCE PRESSE AGENCY correspondent asked official sources for an explanation. A spokesman of the Egyptian Embassy in Washington told him that As-Sadat had mistakenly forgotten to pronounce the paragraph concerning the Palestine people.

Even without this, the White House ceremony strongly resembled a farce. And the so-called 'forgetfulness' of the Egyptian president made it a classical model of this genre. Indeed, what stage director could have conceived such a scenic trick, which so symbolically expressed the fact that, accepting the separate deal As-Sadat betrayed and not just forgot the destines of the Palestinian people, the ideals of Arab unity.

As-Sadat's, Begin's Anti-Sovietism

LD282150 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1903 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

["Rejoinder: The Argument of the Anti-Sovietists Is a Lie"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow--TASS political observer Sergey Kulik writes:

Begin and As-Sadat enunciated their speeches in the American Congress, timed to coincide with the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli separate deal, in pathetic tones. Both the arrogant rhetoric of the "victor" and the servile exclamations of the capitulator were united by one thing in common: open anti-Sovietism. Both Begin and As-Sadat frightened their American listeners in unison with the "Soviet threat" and did not spare words or hues to create fantastic pictures turning almost all countries of the Near East not supporting the Egyptian-Israeli deal, into "storehouses of Soviet weapons...."

The lie of Begin and As-Sadat is so transparent that through it one can see without any effort the goals for which the anti-Soviet concoctions are being invested. By playing on anti-Soviet strings in the capitol they are hoping to grab as many American weapons as possible; and, of course, to suppress the progressive forces in the Near East and not at all to repel the mythical "intrigues of Moscow."

However shamelessly As-Sadat and Begin lied and dodged the following is clear to the peoples of the entire world: The deal signed in Washington leads to an unrestrained arms race, to the creation of a new military and policing structure designed to replace the collapsed CENTO bloc and to the perpetuation of the U.S. military presence in the Near East. Agreement has already been reached on placing the military bases in the Sinai under American control.

The first groups of American inspectors have arrived in Israel and in the near future the transfer of USAF contingents is planned.

Talks are being held on the possibility of the conclusion of an American-Israeli-Egyptian aggressive pact aimed at defending Washington's interests and suppressing the national liberation movement in the Near East and on the African Continent.

So the causes of the violent anti-Sovietism of Begin and As-Sadat are obvious: By their lies they are trying to cover up their own guilt for exacerbation of tension in the Near East.

USSR Not 'Indifferent Onlooker'

LD291025 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Mar 79 p 5 LD

[Untitled article by Yuriy Glukhov under "Observer's Opinion" rubric]

[Text] So the Egyptian-Israeli separate deal has been concluded. The treaty between Cairo and Tel Aviv has been backed up by signatures. Formally it is even called a "peace" treaty. A lot was also said about "peace" in the speeches by the three leaders--the U.S. and Egyptian presidents and the Israeli prime minister--at the signing ceremony. The same theme is rehashed by many Western, Zionist and Egyptian press organs. But despite the propaganda camouflage, peace in the Near East has not become a reality. On the contrary, to all appearances the prospects of peace have become even more remote. In the opinion of Paris' LE FIGARO, as a result of the conclusion of "strange [strannyy] peace" between Egypt and Israel, "the Near East crisis will be marked by new complications in the next few months."

The actual signing of the treaty was conditioned by multibillion-dollar deliveries of U.S. arms to Israel and Egypt, with the lion's share going to Tel Aviv. This fact illustrates more eloquently than any words the "peace-loving" nature of this deal. The deal implements Pentagon plans to knock together an Egyptian-Israeli alliance to perform gendarme functions in this strategically important and oil-rich region. It involves creating new bases and stepping up direct U.S. military interference in Near East affairs, and consolidating U.S. imperialism's positions there, which were weakened by the Iranian revolution.

A genuine settlement of the Near East conflict is inconceivable without solution of radical problems such as eliminating the consequences of the 1967 Israeli aggression, safeguarding the Palestinian people's rights and insuring the security of all states in that region. But the treaty which has been signed does not accord with a single one of these conditions.

Thus the UN resolutions demand the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied in 1967, while the deal concluded in Washington is restricted only to the liberation of the Egyptian Sinai Peninsula, and then only with an encroachment on Egypt's sovereignty. [paragraph continues]

The inalienable right of the Palestinian Arabs to self-rule and to the creation of their own state is replaced by fictitious autonomy and the Israeli occupation of Palestinian lands, and the results of aggression are essentially reinforced.

As a result the American-style "settlement" makes null and void the fundamental international-legal principles governing a solution of the Near East conflict which have already been elaborated and, incidentally, confirmed by the United States in the 1 October 1977 Soviet-American joint statement on the Near East.

It is becoming perfectly clear that Washington's pressure and the political weight of the U.S. President himself were needed to force President as-Sadat to make unilateral concessions and participate in a ceremony which the Arab world regards as an act of capitulation. Israel won; the Arab peoples, including the Egyptians, and the cause of peace in the Near East and throughout the world lost.

Contrary to assurances, the Egyptian-Israeli treaty is not a stage on the path to a general settlement. It only creates new barriers, ties the knot of Near East contradictions even tighter and sows the seeds of new conflicts and upheavals in this area.

It is appropriate to recall, as has been repeatedly noted before, that the Soviet Union has not occupied and is not occupying the position of an indifferent onlooker. The USSR has always been on the side of the Arab peoples' just struggle, supporting the achievement of a genuine settlement of the Near East conflict, including Israel's withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied in 1967, satisfaction of the Palestinians' legitimate rights, including the right to self-determination and the creation of their own state, and the guaranteeing of security for all states in the area. The Soviet Union is prepared to continue to act together with all who cherish the ideals of peace and justice in the Near East.

TASS REPORTS PROGRESS OF ARAB CONFERENCE IN BAGHDAD

LD281330 Moscow TASS in English 1246 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Baghdad, March 28, TASS--An Iraqi document providing for economic measures against Egyptian organisations and individuals who cooperate with Israel was submitted to the joint conference of the ministers of foreign and economic affairs of Arab countries which opened here today. It was presented by Hasan 'Ali, the head of the Iraqi delegation, minister of trade.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi circulated after the first meeting of the conference a statement on this meeting.

A number of delegations also submitted their proposals on this question. After discussing them the conference decided to set up a committee of representatives of Iraq, Syria, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Libya and the PLO for putting together all proposals to make a joint document which is to be submitted to the afternoon meeting. So the delegations are to discuss two documents: The political document prepared by the committee set up on Tuesday by the foreign ministers' conference and an economic document which is to be prepared by the committee that was established today.

The general tendency of the conference, said the Iraqi foreign minister in his statement, is the full implementation of the economic decisions of the Baghdad summit conference.

Economic Summit Proposal

LD281458 Moscow TASS in English 1439 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Baghdad, March 28, TASS--The conference of Arab countries' foreign ministers and ministers of economics taking place here approved Iraq's proposal to hold an Arab economic summit conference.

The proposal was contained in an Iraqi working document submitted to the conference, which had been earlier approved by the Arab League.

The chairman of the conference, Foreign Minister of Iraq Sa'dun Hammadi, who informed the INA agency about the decision, noted that the dangerous stage the Arab nation is now experiencing dictates the need to study additional proposals contained in the working documents submitted to the ministers of foreign affairs and economics of Arab countries.

The proposals concern the implementation of political and economic measures, about which a decision was taken by the Baghdad summit last November.

The time and venue of the Arab economic summit have not yet been revealed.

JORDAN REPORTEDLY RECALLS AMBASSADOR FROM CAIRO

LD281524 Moscow TASS in English 1516 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Paris, March 28, TASS--Jordan has decided to recall its ambassador from Cairo. This was reported by the FRANCE PRESSE news agency from Amman today.

EGYPT CANCELS FLIGHTS TO FOUR ARAB STATES

LD281336 Moscow TASS in English 1214 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Cairo, March 28, TASS--The Egyptian authorities have announced here their decision to cancel Egypt air flights to the capitals of Syria, Iraq, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, and Jordan whose governments condemned the separate Egyptian-Israeli deal. Local observers say that this measure of the Egyptian authorities will isolate Egypt still more among the Arab countries.

MEDIA DISCUSS IRANIAN REFERENDUM; ETHNIC CLASHES

Interview With Information Minister

LD291045 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Mar 79 p 4 LD

[Report by PRAVDA correspondent A. Filippov: "Iran: On the Eve of the Referendum"]

[Text] Tehran, March--It is not so easy to interview prominent figures from the Iranian administration these days. People are completely preoccupied with matters connected with the main event in the country's life--preparation for the referendum on Iran's future state structure.

I was fortunate, however. Despite his heavy workload, Information and Propaganda Minister Naser Minatchi, a participant in the antishah movement, gave me an audience.

The sound of demonstrators chanting: "United States--Hands Off Iran!" wafted through the open windows of the small office from the street bathed in spring sunshine.

As you can see, the minister said, Iranians are in a militant mood on the eve of the referendum. They are rejecting outside pressure and interference. The purpose of the forthcoming referendum, which is being held under conditions of free press and free expression and the right of all political and social organizations to independent activity, is to confirm legally terms the liquidation of the ousted monarchical system of government.

In the course of the nationwide poll, in which, it is expected, around 18 million citizens of 16 years and over will participate, irrespective of ethnic group and regardless of religion and sex, Iranians will answer the question as to whether they support the formation of an Islamic republic in the country instead of a monarchy.

The very policy of the revolutionary regime, corresponding to the interests of the people, militates in favor of the voters' saying "yes," my interlocutor said. Despite the intrigues of covert and overt enemies of the new power, the government has managed in a relatively short time to more or less stabilize the country's economic life. All government establishments, schools and institutions are now functioning normally. The oil industry, a very important sector, has resumed activity; for example, at the beginning of March some Iranian oil began to be exported to foreign markets.

Moreover, our oil is now being sold without middleman services of the international oil consortium, which imposed shackling agreements in the past and plundered our national resources, he said. Oil is not being exported to South Africa and Israel, however, Iran having broken off all economic, cultural and political ties with them.

We are talking about steps taken by the government to escape from imperialist dependence. Naser Minatchi drew attention to such measures as Iran's withdrawal from CENTO; establishment of control over bases the Pentagon was using to implement electronic surveillance of Soviet territory; renunciation of the service of American military advisers in the armed forces; sharp reduction in the military budget. Iran will no longer play the part of American gendarme in the Persian Gulf and the Horn of Africa, my interlocutor observed. Our people approve--and this is indicated by the anti-imperialist rallies being held--the government's desire to pursue an independent foreign policy based on the principles of peace, neutrality and nonalinement. They favor the development of goodneighborly relations with the Soviet Union and support the just struggle cause of the Palestinian Arab people, the minister said.

Political commentators who are carefully following the development of events in the country note that the majority of national patriotic organizations which participated along with the influential and mass movement headed by Ayatollah Khomeyni in the struggle to eliminate the monarchy support the idea of forming an Islamic republic in the country. [paragraph continues]

They include the National Front among these organizations. The political groupings which form this organization reflect the interests of the petit and middle national bourgeoisie and a certain section of the democratically inclined intelligentsia and students.

The People's Party (Tudeh) which was underground for more than 30 years has issued a call to voters to vote in favor of the republic. This party which has entered the arena of political life has not ceased for even a day in the struggle against the shah's despotism. In Tehran's MARDOM, the party's press organ, the Tudeh has declared that the main condition of achieving the revolution's aim is alliance and unity on the part of all democratic and anti-imperialist forces participating in the present revolutionary movement, irrespective of their ideological and political and philosophical views.

According to AYANDEGAN, the Tudeh Party call for unity of action assumes particular importance now, on the eve of the referendum, when domestic and foreign reactionary forces, speculating on the hackneyed thesis of the "communist threat," have mounted provocative operations aimed at undermining confidence in the new regime, causing quarrels between the various political forces and causing inter-nation discord, as events in Iranian Kordestan show.

It should also be noted that a number of progressive organizations which support the new regime's main anti-imperialist measures have as yet refused to participate in the referendum. Thus the national democratic front which recently withdrew from the National Front because of tactical disagreements has explained its refusal saying that the actual statement of the question in the referendum restricts the opportunity for people to express their opinion on Iran's future state structure. A similar position is occupied by such a leftwing political grouping as the Fedayeen partisans' organization.

...Wander through the streets of Tehran and I see preparations for the elections everywhere. On 30 March tens of thousands of polling stations throughout the country will open their doors to voters, who will express their attitude on the question of Iran's future state structure.

Disturbances in Iran

LD282235 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] A delegation of the Kordestan Democratic Party of Iran arrived today in the town of Qom, where it is to be received by the political-religious leader of Iran, Ayatollah Khomeyni. AFP notes that this will be the first meeting Kurdish politicians have had with Khomeyni. They will be discussing implementation of the promises given by the Iranian Provisional Revolutionary Government to grant autonomy to the Kurdish population.

To judge from reports from Iran, self-government is also being demanded by Turkic tribes living in the northeast of the country, on the shores of the Caspian Sea. According to the REUTER agency armed clashes have occurred in the last 2 days in the town of Gonbad-E Kavus, as a result of disagreements over religious questions. The fact is that the local population are Sunni Moslems while the majority of Iranians are Shi'ites. One of the Iranian leaders, Ayatollah Taleqani, believes, however, that the reason for the disturbances is problems over land. He believes that the Turkic tribes are pressing for the return of lands taken from them by the former regime of the shah. Taleqani has called on the government to make an urgent review of the 1963 law on land reforms. A government delegation has set off for Gonbad-E Kavus to settle the conflict.

The Iranian authorities believe that ethnic, religious and other problems are being used by reactionaries to create in the country an atmosphere of tension and chaos on the eve of the referendum on the state system for Iran, which, as is known, is due to be held on 30 March.

Bazargan, Sanjabi Reply Messages

LD281858 Moscow TASS in English 1809 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 28, TASS--In a reply telegram to Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Aleksey Kosygin, the prime minister of the Provisional Government of Iran Mehdi Bazargan expressed sincere thanks for congratulations on his appointment to the post.

The Provisional Government of Iran, the telegram says, is interested that friendly relations and cooperation between our countries should develop and expand on the basis of the principles of equality, good-neighbourhood and respect for national sovereignty.

Mehdi Bazargan conveyed wishes of progress and prosperity to the Soviet people.

The minister of foreign affairs of Iran's Provisional Government Karim Sanjabi sent a reply telegram to USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko with expressions of gratitude for congratulations on his appointment to the post.

SAUDI-U.S. TIES SEEN IN DECLINE; USSR SEEKS 'ACTIVATION'

LD281105 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 27 Mar 79 p 3 LD

[N. Morozov article: "Around the 'Arabian Knot'"]

[Text] U.S. President Carter's visit to the Near East has attracted world public attention to U.S. relations with the countries of that region. And this is no accident. The revolution in Iran, the collapse of the CENTO bloc, the Arab peoples' resistance to separate deals for a Near East settlement--all this is obliging the U.S. administration to seek new paths to consolidate its positions and authority. In its Near East policy the Carter administration allocates a special place to Saudi Arabia, an Arab state whose great influence on the development of the situation in the Near East today is undoubted.

The United States believes that its political relations with Saudi Arabia go back to the meeting between President F. Roosevelt and the Saudi King 'Abdul 'Aziz in February 1945. Since then Saudi-U.S. cooperation has developed on an ascending line, although it has still had one weak spot: The Saudis have considered that the United States, if it wants to get on with the Arab world and particularly with Saudi Arabia, must force Israel to withdraw its troops from Arab territories occupied in 1967, including East Jerusalem, and support the legitimate rights of the Palestinians.

It is fashionable in the West today to argue about who--the United States or Saudi Arabia--is more interested in good mutual relations. One thing is clear. And Washington does not hide it: The Americans are understandably not indifferent to the way their relations develop with the oil kingdom. The United States receives from Saudi Arabia 20 percent of its imported oil and sells to it billions of dollars worth of arms and military equipment.

But the Americans are not (?sparing) their Saudi friends. The visit paid to Riyadh in February by U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown and his promise to provide the Saudis with a "military umbrella" and "protect them from the communist peril," together with his proposal that they join the military bloc the United States is planning in the Near East were an unpleasant shock to the Saudis. At the very moment when neighboring Iran was being lashed by anti-U.S. demonstrations, Washington was demonstrating its "special bias" toward Saudi Arabia. Moreover, some U.S. congressmen are making it clear that it is time Saudi Arabia paid its American accounts, so that Saudi-U.S. relations are "not a one-way street." Today such comments, particularly that made by Senator Church, should be taken to mean that Riyadh is being asked to support the separate Egyptian-Israeli deal despite its anti-Arab orientation and the indignation it arouses in the Arab world and among Palestinian circles. Therefore, many people are reasonably asking themselves: What is this--political short-sightedness on the part of the Washington politicians, or a deliberate game designed to lower Riyadh's prestige in the Arab world and the developing countries?

Despite optimistic statements by U.S. officials, the present stage of Saudi-U.S. relations is characterized not only by major keys. A few days after Brown left Riyadh it was announced that the remaining 40 percent of the shares in the U.S. oil company Aramco, which extracts a large proportion of Saudi oil would pass to the Saudi government. This transfer to national control of the leading U.S. oil monopoly in the Arab world was welcomed in Saudi Arabian business circles and in the Arab world. Moreover, Saudi Crown Prince Fahd, whom the Americans expected in the United States on an official visit on 14 March this year, put off his trip indefinitely.

Z. Brzezinski's visit to Riyadh on 17 March this year was aimed at neutralizing the Saudis' negative reaction to the separate Egyptian-Israeli accord on a Near East settlement reached during Carter's visit to Cairo and Tel Aviv. The statements made by Crown Prince Fahd attest that Z. Brzezinski did not succeed in achieving unconditional support for the U.S. course.

At the same time as differing views are being expressed with regard to Saudi-U.S. relations, reports have appeared in the press about the possible activation of Soviet-Saudi relations. This also requires explanation. Saudi Arabia was the first Arab country with which the Soviet Union established diplomatic relations, in 1928, and it gave Saudi Arabia moral and political support greatly needed at that time. In 1932 Prince Faysal later to become king of Saudi Arabia, visited Moscow and was greeted warmly. On the eve of World War II Soviet representatives working in Saudi Arabia left for the USSR, and since then there have been no diplomatic missions either in Moscow or in Riyadh, despite the Soviet side's wishes. The absence of such missions naturally makes our relations to a considerable degree only formal, although there have never been any objective reasons for preserving this frankly abnormal situation. Some people in Saudi Arabia mention the so-called incompatability of Islam and communist ideology as the main obstacle to the activation of Soviet-Saudi relations. But it is appropriate to note that the Soviet Union has good relations with many monarchist and Muslim countries which cherish the ideas of Islam as closely as the Saudis. The USSR's approach to all peoples and states has been and continues to be determined only by the sincere desire to develop friendship and cooperation based on conditions of reciprocity, on respect for sovereignty and national traditions and support for the people's struggle for peace and social progress.

It is precisely the imperialist powers figuring among Saudi Arabia's "friends" which are distinguished by their blasphemous attitude toward the sacred objects of Islam. East Jerusalem, the third-most important city in the Muslim world, was seized in 1967 by Israeli occupiers behind whom the figure of Uncle Sam always looms.

The tense situation persisting in the Near East connected with Israel's aggressive actions, the Carter administration's covert machinations on questions of a Near East settlement and the Americans' desire to give "first aid" to the Arab peoples attests that recent events have taught politicians nothing. The tense situation presupposes that the Arab peoples will look afresh at the situation which has formed around them and display vigilance with respect to U.S. plans for (?building up) its military presence in the Near East.

KUWAIT MEETING BETWEEN PDRY, YAR LEADERS REPORTED

LD281340 Moscow TASS in English 1226 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait, March 28, TASS--A.F. Isma'il, president of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and A.A. Salih, the president of the Yemeni Arab Republic, had a meeting here. The purpose of their meeting was to ease tension in relations between the two countries and to ensure peace and security in the south of the Arabian Peninsula.

U.S. Activity

LD290950 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0100 GMT 29 Mar 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Viktor Levin]

[Text] The presidents of the Yemeni states, 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il and 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, have arrived in Kuwait for a summit meeting to finally settle the border conflict. When the situation on the North-South Yemen border became acute, the United States hastened to announce its intention to supply North Yemen with weapons worth $400 million and to send military experts there. According to available information, both the deliveries of weapons and the sending of experts have started. It was quite clear that the United States was trying to pour oil on the fire.

Observers linked that dangerous activity by the United States to its intentions to stir up yet another hotbed of tension in the Near East in order to be able to carry out an imperialist intervention. Many Arab states made active efforts at mediation to normalize relations between the Yemeni states. The Government of Democratic Yemen not only supported these efforts but expressed readiness to sit down at the negotiating table. The commanders in chief of the armed forces of the two countries and other representatives have already met, and now talks between the presidents are starting.

IMPERIALISM'S 'COVERT INFLUENCE' IN AFRICA ATTACKED

LD282212 Moscow in French to Africa 1800 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Dear listeners, today we begin a series of talks on the activities of international monopolies in Central and West African countries. Here is the first talk entitled "The Foreign Monopolies and the Political Sovereignty of African Countries," prepared by our observer Aleksandr Fedorov:

Accession to independence has not brought about the deliverance of any African country from the grip of foreign monopolies. On the contrary, during the last few years, the latter have further consolidated their positions in some countries on the continent. For instance, in Ivory Coast they control all the key sectors of the national economy. Taking advantage of their strength, they interfere in the economic and political life of developing countries. For instance, the authors of the report on the activities of transnational corporations prepared under the aegis of the United Nations, draw attention to the fact that these monopolist groupings encroach on national sovereignty by undermining the capabilities of the states in struggling for the implementation of their tasks in the spheres of domestic and foreign policy.

The right to free and independent choice of the course of economic and social development is one of the fundamental and sovereign rights of every nation and country. Yet when the people in one or two countries opt for socialist orientation, the imperialist monopolies do their utmost to prevent them from following the course they have chosen. For instance, many will still remember the events in Guinea at the beginning of the sixties when the imperialist monopolies resorted to an economic boycott of the country and organized all kinds of subversions to prevent it from proceeding along the road of building a new society.

Despite the fact that the two (?decades) have since passed, nothing has changed in the policy of the imperialists. Speaking recently at the traditional meeting of [word indistinct] with state organ leaders, President of Madagascar Didier Ratsiraka spoke in detail about the acts of sabotage committed by international imperialist agents, who are striving to make the Malagasy people give up their progressive changes.

For this purpose, the international monopolies and the imperialist powers which support them constantly exert pressure on other African countries like Ethiopia, Mozambique, Guinea and Angola, by applying their traditional policy of stick and carrot. In Guinea, the Western powers lavish promises of economic and technical aid, hoping to achieve what they could not achieve in the past through coercion. Their refusal to build a new society on noncapitalist foundations is evident.

In addition, the imperialist monopolies are striving to reserve for themselves the right to uncontrolled exploitation of the natural resources to the detriment of the interests of the African countries. In order to preserve their interests in this sphere, the developing countries have even been forced to resort to the aid of the United Nations. On the initiative of the socialist countries and developing countries and despite the opposition of the imperialist powers this international organization adopted a decision confirming the inalienable right of every state to dispose of natural resources and its riches, including the right to nationalize property belonging to foreigners.

Yet the imperialists resort to direct and indirect sabotage of this decision. For instance, the current negotiations between the European Common Market and the group of developing countries shows that in order to please the monopolies, the imperialist powers seek to impose on the countries in question agreements which reduce to nil the clauses of the above-mentioned UN decision and encroach on their national sovereignty in the economic sphere.

The desire of the African countries to achieve greater independence forces the imperialist monopolies to apply more subtle methods and to resort to increasingly covert methods to influence them in the economic and political spheres. The creation of mixed private companies with the participation of African shareholders is one of these methods. Using this as a screen, the imperialists obtain customs and fiscal benefits, and guarantees against the risk of nationalization and so forth.

'RACIST MANEUVERINGS' IN NAMIBIA ANALYZED

LD281121 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Mar 79 p 5 LD

[Yu. Vladimirov article: "Racists' Maneuvers"]

[Text] The 2-day multilateral talks on Namibia initiated by five Western powers--the United States, England, France, the FRG, and Canada--have ended in New York without result. To what may the convening of this conference be attributed?

As already reported, UN armed forces and civilian personnel were to have arrived in Namibia on 15 March. Part of their task was to help with the organization and conduct of elections to be held not later than 30 September on the territory of this country prior to the proclamation of its independence. However, at the last moment the Republic of South Africa advanced a series of conditions impeding the commencement of UN operations. "The five" attempted to find a way out of the impasse, but, judging by the New York talks, they are inclined to go along with the racists.

The granting of the right of self-determination to the Namibian people cannot be a bargaining chip. This has been repeatedly confirmed by the UN. However, the South African racists who have occupied the country for many years, oppose the demands of international public opinion and continue to hold Namibia in the position of a colony. The response to these actions has been a broad armed liberation struggle. It is headed by the patriotic South West African Peoples' Organization (SWAPO) which is a fully authorized representative of the Namibian people.

It is not the first time the UN has attempted to find a peaceful way to decolonize Namibia. But its new plan is running into opposition from the racists. The United States, England, France, Canada and the FRG, who have an interest in preserving imperialist positions in the south of Africa, acting supposedly as mediators in the talks between the UN and the Republic of South Africa are in essence sanctioning the presence of South African forces, police and administrators in Namibia during the transitional period.

Last December under conditions of terror and repression the South Africans held elections to the so-called "Constitutional [konstitutsionnaya; presumably 'constituent' meant] Assembly"--a puppet organ, required to serve the colonialists. The UN General Assembly, the OAU and a number of other international forums declared both the elections themselves as well as their results invalid. The SWAPO president called Pretoria's "electoral" act a farce which in no way reflected the will of the people.

Under conditions of universal condemnation the Republic of South Africa agreed to new contacts with the UN on the Namibian question by means of Namibia's "Constitutional" Assembly. This puppet clique stated that it would only agree to the holding of elections under UN supervision if South African troops, police and administrators were retained in the country. Moreoever, it even demanded that the decision to recognize SWAPO as the only fully authorized representative of the Namibian people be revoked.

As for the racists themselves, they advanced a series of conditions on their part as well. These included the withdrawal of SWAPO troops from Namibia and their stationing, under the control of the UN armed forces, on the territory of the "front-line states." Pretoria also objects to the inclusion of military units from those countries which condemn the apartheid policy, in the contingent of "blue helmets." But the leader of the Republic of South Africa's occupation authorities in Namibia stated that even after the holding of elections under UN supervision the current "Constiutional" Assembly would continue to operate in the country. Moreover, Pretoria is threatening to start a unilateral procedure to grant Namibia "independence" on 2 April. This means the transfer of power to the puppets "elected" in December and the transformation of the country into a bantustan of the Republic of South Africa.

The racists' scandalously impudent demands were necessary in order to prevent the effective participation of the UN in resolving the problem. Having chosen delaying tactics Pretoria and her Western patrons are taking steps aimed at routing the liberation movement. New Republic of South Africa army units are arriving in Namibia. At present they already number 60,000 men. According to foreign news agency reports from Windhoek, special detachments are being knocked together to help the South African soldiers and recruitment to these detachments is being carried out by former officers of the SS and of Hitler's Wehrmacht. According to African press data about 1,000 Chilean cutthroats who have had "special training" at U.S. American bases are in the ranks of these mercenaries.

Pretoria's propaganda mouthpieces openly threaten the SWAPO leaders with murder. Under the pretext of combating the patriots, armed provocations against neighboring states are organized. Here the South African soldiers make use not only of bombers, but also of ground subunits. During an incursion by troops of the Republic of South Africa on 8-13 March, a communique from the Defense Ministry of the People's Republic of Angola stated that the racists' motorised infantry units crossed the Angolan border in the Shana di Shekongi and Kalueki regions and penetrated 17 km inside the country's territory. In these "preventive" operations the racists used napalm. Camps of Namibian refugees, who had found refuge on Angolan soil and also civilian installations and populated points in Angola were subjected to piratical attacks.

As is known, SWAPO does not object to a peaceful path being taken but it decisively rejects the racist conditions to the settlement of the Namibian problem. The recent SWAPO Central Committee plenum stressed that the maneuvers by the racists and their Western patrons are forcing the patriots to take up arms. "The people of Namibia will never agree to a neocolonial solution to the country's problem," SWAPO President Sam Nujoma stated. "We declare most resolutely that the patriots' armed struggle will continue until imperialism and racism cease their attempts to wreck the territory's decolonization process." It is completely obvious that the true will of the people can only be expressed after the withdrawal of the forces of occupation from the country's territory. Attempting to avoid further bloodshed, SWAPO has once more confirmed its readiness for a peaceful solution to the problem if administrative and military control are handed over to the UN before the elections begin.

By resorting to delaying tactics, the racists and their patrons, headed by the United States, are seeking to secure concessions by SWAPO with the help of which it would be possible to prevent the true representatives of the Namibian people from coming to power.

BREZHNEV CABLES CONGRATULATIONS TO EQUATORIAL GUINEAN PRESIDENT

ID281958 Moscow TASS in English 1918 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 28, TASS--Leonid Brezhnev sent to President of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea Macias Nguema Bijogo Negue Ndong a telegramme conveying congratulations and best wishes to the friendly people of Equatorial Guinea on the occasion of the national holiday.

In this reply telegramme the president of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea expressed sincere gratitude to the CPSU, the Soviet Government and the people of the Soviet Union for congratulations and good wishes conveying on his behalf the wishes of prosperity and happiness to the Soviet people.

The telegrammes expressed confidence that the relations of friendship, solidarity and mutually advantageous cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Equatorial Guinea will develop further serving the interests of the peoples of the two countries, the cause of peace and progress.

SOCIALIST COMPETITION, 5-YEAR PLANS INSEPARABLY LINKED

LD281143 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Mar 79 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Competition Serves the 5-Year Plan"]

[Text] The working days of the fourth year of the 5-year plan are being packed with creative labor by the Soviet people. The capacities of Siberia and the Far East's industrial complexes are being built up. Leningrad's machinebuilders have put some sophisticated machine tools into production ahead of schedule. The miners of the Gorbachev mine in Karagandinskaya Oblast have sent thousands of tons of coal up to the surface over and above the plan. Several more commodities bearing the trade marks of Armenian light industry enterprises have been awarded the state seal of quality. The machine operators of Khersonskaya Oblast have been overfulfilling output norms from the very start of the spring sowing work... And, as a rule, each of the reports about labor successes and great achievements is prefaced by the words: "Having mounted socialist competition on a wide scale...."

"We all rejoice," said Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the 25th party congress, "to see what deep roots Lenin's ideas of socialist competition have put down. We are proud that the communists are marching in the vanguard of competition. Competition exerts a deep influence on economic practice, on the country's sociopolitical life, and on the moral atmosphere. Our common combat slogan is to continue developing socialist competition and the movement for a communist attitude toward labor in every way."

The CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the 50th anniversary of the First 5-Year Plan for the Development of the USSR National Economy" provides powerful new impetus for the development of socialist competition. It is portentous that this jubilee coincides with the 50th anniversary of the launching of mass socialist competition. It is accepted practice for us to mark glorious dates in the motherland's history with shock labor. And just now, while preparing for this important event in our life, the Soviet people are continuing the remarkable tradition and are striving for great new victories in all sectors of building communism.

Looking back over the path that the Soviet country has traveled during the last half-century, we can see with our own eyes that competition and the 5-year plans are inseparably linked. And the present provides thousands of examples of this. The creative forces of competition and the masses' living initiative are directed toward solving the ambitious tasks of the USSR's economic and social development in the 10th 5-Year Plan period. The labor collectives, seeking to fulfill and to overfulfill the plan targets of the present year, are focusing their efforts on enhancing efficiency and work quality and accelerating the tempo of scientific and technical progress, bringing production reserves into play and insuring strict observance of the policy of thrift.

Socialist competition is an organic part of all economic and managerial activity. It is the party committees' concern to steadily enhance the role and responsibility of the leaders of ministries, departments and enterprises for the organization of competition and for the fulfillment of strenuous counterplans and socialist pledges. It is very important to develop in every way the socialist competition between the collectives of subcontracting enterprises and organizations, and to pay special attention to the strict observance of contractual pledges.

Many patriotic initiatives are engendered by the creativity of millions of people and are placed at the service of the 5-year plan. The "work without laggards!" initiative has received truly nationwide support. Competition between subcontractors in line with the principle of the "worker's relays" for the prompt or ahead-of-schedule commissioning of very important production capacities and installations has just recently become more purposeful and effective. Farmers everywhere are adopting the Ipatovo method of organizing agricultural operations. This year even more collectives are following the example of the beet growers and sugar industry workers of Vinnitskaya Oblast's Yampolskiy Rayon, who by their joint efforts considerably increased the output of white sugar from each hectare of the plantations last year.

Leading experience is a priceless asset of ours, a powerful reserve for further production growth and for enhancing efficiency and work quality. The party and trade union organizations are required to watch attentively everything novel that emerges in socialist competition, to give businesslike support to valuable initiatives and to resolutely oppress formalism and mere show.

As always, the communists set an example of selflessness, creative daring, organization and discipline in socialist competition. They lead their comrades along in their wake, and they nurture in people a sense of pride in, and high responsibility for, the work entrusted to them. It is necessary to continue developing the activity of the communists--the veritable leaders of the labor collectives in the struggle to fulfill the 5-year plans.

The achievements of competition stalwarts attest graphically that the most strenuous plans can be not only successfully implemented but overfulfilled as well. Meanwhile, since the beginning of the year a lag has been allowed to occur in a number of sectors, and the collectives which are in arrears to the state must make up the shortfall as quickly as possible. They must strive for an efficient production rhythm in order to insure the unconditional fulfillment of the targets for the fourth year of the 5-year plan.

Competition under conditions of a developed socialist society has become a powerful driving force not just for economic but also for social progress, and a school for the communist education of the working people. The educational effect of competition is achieved more effectively when party and trade union organizations and economic leaders vigilantly take note of the achievements of the participants, insure publicity for labor rivalry, and make skilful use of material and moral incentives.

At this time, Soviet people are preparing actively for the Lenin communist subbotnik. Millions have responded to the Muscovites' appeal to mark the 109th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth and the 60th anniversary of the great initiative by shock labor. It is essential that the party, soviet, economic, trade union and Komsomol organizations intensify organizational and mass political work aimed at insuring that the 21 April subbotnik yields high results for the national economy and becomes a veritable festival of communist labor.

The Soviet people are approaching communism by 5-year plan stages. The broad scope of socialist competition is the guarantee of glorious new victories along this path.

TWO-VOLUME COLLECTION OF KOSYGIN SPEECHES, ARTICLES HAILED

LD231958 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0153 GMT 23 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The decisions of the party congresses and the theoretical and practical activity of the Central Committee and its Politburo headed by Comrade Brezhnev are convincing testimony of the CPSU's creative approach to the development of Marxist-Leninist teaching, the formulation of plans for our country's social and economic progress and the calculation of the changing conditions in the international situation. This creative nature and the humane direction of the party's policy are vividly revealed in the recently published two-volume collection of speeches and articles by Aleskey Nikolayevich Kosygin, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, PRAVDA says. A review of this collection is published under the title "On the Road to a Great Goal" [Na Puti k Velikoy Tseli].

The works published in the book, entitled "To a Great Goal" [K Velikoy Tseli], relate to the period 1939-1978. They cast light on the very important phase of the country's history over the past four decades: The building of the foundations of socialism in the USSR, the Great Patriotic War, the postwar reconstruction and development of the national economy, and the creation of an advanced socialist society and the building of communism. Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin throughout that time held leading party and state posts, and took a direct part in the formulation of the CPSU's political course. A central place in the compendium is occupied by works of the past 14 years, when Aleksey Nikoleyevich Kosygin has headed the USSR Council of Ministers.

In the development of cooperation between states with different social systems, the author sees a reliable foundation for the further reinforcement of the tendency toward relaxation of international tensions. The two-volume work contains a majestic panorama of the struggle of the CPSU, the Soviet state, and Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, to prevent a thermonuclear war. The plots of militarism and reaction are energetically exposed. A clear justification is given for the most urgent and burning task of our time--to extend detente to the military sphere, to curb the arms race and to obtain real results in disarmament.

The historical path of the land of soviets as illustrated in this compendium, the flowering of its economy and culture, the reinforcement of its defense capacity, the continuing assault upon the cosmos and the growth of prestige and influence in the international arena show the viability and creative force of the domestic and foreign policies of the party of Lenin. Those policies, which found comprehensive expression in Leonid Brezhnev's electoral speech, demonstrate that all the activity of the CPSU is imbued with a spirit of revolutionary dialectics and characterized by an inseparable unity of theory and practice. "The reports, speeches and articles by Aleksey Kosygin presented in this two-volume book are the most vivid proof of the creative development of Marxism-Leninism by our party and of the realism of the plans for building communism," PRAVDA concludes.

PARTY, STATE SEND 60TH ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO BASHKIRIA

LD281211 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Mar 79 p 1 LD

[Text] To the Baskhirskiy Obkom, Bashkirskaya ASSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Bashkirskaya ASSR Council of Ministers.

The CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers warmly and wholeheartedly congratulate the workers, kolkhoz members, intelligentsia and all working people of Bashkiria on a great festival--the 60th anniversary of the Bashkirskaya ASSR. The Great October Socialist Revolution freed the Bashkir people from many centuries of social and national oppression and opened up broad opportunities for the radical restructuring of all aspects of their social life. In the indestructible unity and fraternity of the peoples of the RSFSR and the entire country, the republic's working people have traveled a glorious historical road of struggle and labor achievements. They made an important contribution to the overall victory of the peoples of the multinational motherland during the Civil War, foreign intervention and the Great Patriotic War, to the restoration of the national economy and to the building of a developed socialist society in our country.

During the years of Soviet power Bashkiria has become a flourishing autonomous socialist republic with a powerful industry, highly developed agriculture and advanced science and culture. Machinebuilding and the chemical, petroleum, petroleum refining and petrochemical industries are developing rapidly. The specialization and concentration of agricultural production are being implemented consistently and agricultural output is growing. The working people's material and cultural living standard is being constantly improved. During socialist building a skilled detachment of the working class has been formed, the social nature of the peasantry has changed and specialist cadres have grown up. The achievements of Soviet Bashkiria are the result of the consistent and unswerving implementation of Lenin's nationalities policy, the indestructible fraternal friendship of our country's peoples, and all the historical gains of Soviet society enshrined in the new USSR Constitution and in the constitutions of the RSFSR and Bashkirskaya ASSR.

The republic's workers are implenting with great political and labor enthusiasm the historic decisions of the 25th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee plenums and the plans of the 10th 5-Year Plan, and they are struggling persistently to improve production efficiency and work quality.

The CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers express firm confidence that the working people of Bashkirskaya ASSR, under the leadership of Lenin's party, will achieve new successes in developing their economy and culture and will make a fitting contribution to the consolidation of the might of our socialist motherland!

Long live the Bashkirskaya ASSR!

Long live the CPSU--the inspirer and organizer of the building of communism in our country!

[Signed] The CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, USSR Council of Ministers.

GEORGIAN COORDINATING BODY ADOPTS CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAM

LD281153 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 20 Mar 79 p 3 LD

[GRUZINFORM reports: "Coordination of Activity Is the Guarantee of Success"]

[Text] A session of the council for coordinating the activity of the Georgian SSR Prosecutor's Office, the MVD, the Justice Ministry and the republic's Supreme Court has been held under the chairmanship of Georgian SSR Prosecutor A.M. Barabadze.

It was attended by K. Ye. Ketiladze, Georgian SSR minister of internal affairs, A.G. Karanandze, chairman of the Supreme Court, and leading workers of the republican Prosecutor's Office.

A plan for the council's work in 1979 was discussed and approved. It concentrates on measures aimed at comprehensively improving the effectiveness of work on preventing lawbreaking and crime, especially among minors. Special attention is paid to improving the effectiveness of the struggle against hooliganism, parasitism, protectionism and bribery.

The session stressed the need to quickly eliminate shortcomings which for a number of years have characterized the activity of a number of administrative organs, with the result that the struggle against crime is somewhat ineffective.

Concrete measures were outlined to improve the coordination of the activity of the republic's administrative organs.

REPUBLIC-LEVEL PERSONNEL CHANGES REPORTED BY MEDIA

Ukrainian Social Security Minister

AU281106 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 20 Mar 79 p1 AU

[Text] The Ukrainian Supremem Soviet Presidium resolves to appoint Comrade Aleksandra Mikhaylovna Lukyanenko Ukrainian SSR minister of social security.

[Signed] A. Vatchenko, chairman, and Ya. Kolotukha, secretary, of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Kiev, 19 March 1979.

Aleksandra Mikhaylovna Lukyanenko was born in 1938 at Dolinskaya settlement, Dolinskiy Rayon, Kirovogradskaya Oblast. Graduated from the Dnepropetrovsk Medical Institute in 1961, she was employed as chief of a rayon health service section, chief physician at the Krivoy Rog city hospital, chief of a department, and deputy chief of the main administration No 4 in the Ukrainian Ministry of Health. In 1973 she was appointed Ukrainian deputy minister and in 1974 Ukrainian first deputy minister of social security.

Comrade Aleksey Fedotovic Fedotov has been relieved of the duties of Ukrainian SSR minister of social security and confirmed as chairman of the Commission for the Affairs of Former Partisans in the Great Fatherland War 1941-45 under the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Ukrainian Minister of Sovkhozes

AU271007 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 26 Mar 79 AU

[Text] The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium by a decree has appointed Nikolay Afanasiyevich Korzh Ukrainian minister of sovkhozes. By the same decree, Yuriy Afanasyevich Kolomiyets has been relieved of the duties of Ukrainian minister of sovkhozes in connection with his appointment as first deputy chairman of the Ukrainian Gosplan.

Turkmen Central Committee Staff

LD281359 [Editorial Report LD] Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 18 March 1979 publishes on pages 1-3, under the headline "For a Leninist Style in Work with Working People's Letters and Statements," a 12,000-word TURKMENINFORM report on a Turkmenistan CP Central Committee plenum held 15 March. The report provides an 8,800-word account of "the report 'On Further Improving Work With Letters and Statements and the Reception of Working People in the Light of the 25th CPSU Congress Demands' delivered at the plenum by Comrade M.G. Gapurov, first secretary of the Turkmenistan CP Central Committee." The TURKMENINFORM report concludes:

"The plenum elected V.F. Zhulenev Bureau member and secretary of the Turkmenistan CP Central Committee.

"The plenum relieved V.N. Rebrik of his duties as chief of the Turkmenistan CP Central Committee Industry and Transport Department in connection with his departure on training. V.A. Kharkov was approved chief of the Turkmenistan CP Central Committee Industry and Transport Department.

"The plenum promoted S.N. Muradov, R.Ya. Maksudov, B. Tagandurdyyev and V.F. Belonozhikina from candidate members to members of the Turkmeninstan CP Central Committee.

"Ye.G. Kuznetsov, CPSU Central Committee instructor, and A.N. Molokoyedov, CPSU Central Committee consultant, participated in the plenum."

Belorussian Agriculture Minister

LD281445 [Editorial Report LD] Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 17 March 1979 frontpages three Belourssian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees dated 16 March. The first relieves "Comrade Viktor Alekseyevich Kozlov of his duties as Belorussian SSR minister of agriculture in connection with his transfer to other work," and appoints Fedor Petrovich Senko as his replacement. The second relieves "Comrade Aleksey Ivanovich Vorontsov of his duties as chairman of the Belorussian SSR State Committee for Nature Conservation in connection with his retirement on pension" and appoints Viktor Alekseyevich Kozlov as his replacement. The third decree announces the award of a "Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet honor certificate" to Vorontsov "for his many years of active work."

Uzbek Minister of Trade

LD281447 [Editorial Report LD] Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 15 March 1979, frontpages an Uzbek Supreme Soviet Presidium decree of 14 March on the appointment of Madamindzhan Khasanovich Khasanov as Uzbek minister of trade and on page 4 a "Chronicle" report on the Uzbek Supreme Soviet Presidium's relieving Gafur Giyasovich Yusupov of his duties as Uzbek minister of trade in connection with his retirement.

Kirgiz Minister of Trade

LD281449 [Editorial Report LD] Frunze SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA in Russian 17 March 1979 frontpages a republican Supreme Soviet Presidium decree dated 16 March appointing Comrade Toktogul Bekbolotovich Chilebayev Kirgiz SSR Minister of Trade.

SEA TRANSPORT PLAYS IMPORTANT ROLE IN USSR FOREIGN TRADE

LD281527 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Mar 79 p 4 LD

[First Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Yu. Brezhnev article: "The Monopoly of Foreign Trade and Transport"]

[Text] Soviet foreign trade is an organic part of the national economy. It is growing in close interaction with the economy. The exchange of goods with foreign countries plays an active role in the growth of productive forces. In its turn, the growth in the national economy opens up new opportunities to expand economic cooperation with other countries. Foreign economic links are also an important means of relaxing international tension and strengthening the base of peaceful coexistence among states with different social systems.

The Soviet state establishes the procedure for executing foreign trade operations and monitoring the observance of this procedure. Attaching fundamental significance to the state monopoly over foreign trade for communist building, V.I. Lenin personally watched over its strict observance. On his initiative, the 12th party congress confirmed the "unshakable nature of the foreign trade monopoly and the impermissibility of any evasion or hesitation in its implementation." The improvement of forms, methods and organization of foreign economic activity remains the constant concern of the party and government.

At present the Soviet Union conducts trade with 118 countries of the world. Moreover, while in the prewar year of 1940 the Soviet Union's foreign trade amounted to only R500 million, last year it reached R70.2 billion.

The high development rates of the USSR's foreign economic links on the basis of the state monopoly reflect the steady upsurge of the socialist national economy. In connection with the deepening of international specialization and industrial production sharing between the USSR and other CEMA member countries, major agreements have been concluded on cooperation in the construction of various complexes and on reciprocal deliveries of raw materials and finished products. An example of the USSR's participation in the international division of labor is also provided by the existing long-term agreements signed by the Soviet Union's trade organizations with a number of leading firms in the United States, Italy, France, FRG, and Britain for the supply of sets of equipment to the USSR for the construction of major chemical enterprises, and for the output of these enterprises in turn to be supplied to these countries.

At the same time foreign trade does not merely mean trade in industrial and agricultural goods, but also in services created in productive and nonproductive spheres. Transport is one of these services, which ensures the delivery of goods to their destination and is also an item for purchase and sale in international trade.

The upsurge of the national economy and the tasks of insuring stable and reliable foreign trade links dictate the need for correspondingly increasing and improving transport facilities, and for enhancing the efficiency of their utilization and their competitiveness. This enables tasks set by the party and government to be tackled more successfully.

The growing transportation of freight between the Soviet Union and foreign countries is a specific sphere of economic and commercial activity. And here, the main role is played by sea transport. [paragraph continues]

Suffice it to say that approximately 61 percent of our country's foreign trade shipments by sea are performed by the Soviet merchant fleet, and over 75 percent of freight in international trade is carried by sea.

Shipments of Soviet freight, especially by sea, are also performed using foreign transport facilities. Thus in 1978 ships flying the flags of other states made 16,327 calls at ports in the USSR. This means that over 44 foreign ships are loading or unloading at Soviet ports every day. Over a period of 1 year they handled 39 percent of the USSR foreign trade cargoes conveyed by sea. Thus transport expenditures make up a considerable proportion of the costs of handling our foreign trade.

Indeed transport is one of the important factors affecting the price of a commodity in a foreign trade deal. Its influence on the price is manifested primarily as the result of the change in the cost of transportation.

Freight shipments are an essential part of the unified foreign trade process and this is manifested with particular clarity in the conclusion and execution of contracts for the sale of goods. Foreign purchasers are promised that the goods will be delivered to the port of destination in the quantities and within the period stipulated in the contract. In this connection foreign trade organizations have the task of correctly determining, in accordance with the market conditions and prevailing situation, the proportion of the cost of the commodity accounted for by transport expenditure, and must insure the timely hire of the requisite marine tonnage.

The combination of the monopoly of commodity trade and transport services, as the history of the Soviet state's foreign economic relations shows, has been of great significance in terms of fulfilling the country's targets at the various stages of socialist building. Under modern conditions of the Soviet Union's expanding foreign economic ties this combination has an even bigger role to play.

The 25th CPSU Congress decisions point out that one of the paramount tasks of the 5-year plan is to increase foreign trade efficiency. Moreover, the Soviet merchant fleet, as an important sector of the national economy, is required to bring about economies and a reduction in hard-currency expenditure by substantially increasing shipments of export and import goods on its own ships.

The possession of one's own merchant fleet, which makes this possible, is of substantial significance for developing foreign trade and for achieving independence from the world charter market. However, this does not mean that all shipments must be made on our own ships. When selling or buying goods it may be economically advantageous to use foreign shipping. But it is much easier to determine this when the foreign trade organization is itself a charterer. In fact, the terms of sale and delivery of goods depend on an agreement between the respective Soviet and foreign trade organizations wherein each side takes account of the benefits accruing to it from this.

The cost of marine transport is a significant element in the price of the goods in which the Soviet Union trades. In 1978 the proportion accounted for by marine charter costs in the price of export goods shipped at the exporter's expense was on average: 30.6 percent for cement, 30 percent for pulpwood, 58-60 percent for iron ore and so forth. It is clear from these figures how important it is for foreign trade organizations, both buyers and sellers, to be constantly up to date with the current charter market situation. They must know how big an expenditure should be envisaged in the price of an article for its transportation which the combination of a monopoly of foreign commodity trade and transport output (that is, shipments) is meant to insure. [paragraph continues]

However, operations concerned with chartering ships and buying and selling goods have in practice been separated and come under different departments.

It is obviously expedient to extend the monopoly of transport operations to the sale and purchase of marine transport output. Special significance attaches here to foreign trade organizations' monopoly implementation of charter operations.

The centralized leadership of foreign commodity trade operations and export-import transport services by one state organ--the Ministry of Foreign Trade--will contribute to the fulfillment of the tasks which the 25th CPSU Congress set before it.

AMUR GOLD MINERS TO IMPROVE UPON UNSUCCESSFUL 1978 SEASON

OW28148 Blagoveshchensk Domestic Service in Russian 1015 GMT 21 Mar 79 OW

[Recorded interview with Valentin Ivanovich Kisilev, director of the Amurzoloto Production Association, by unidentified correspondent--date, place not given]

[Text] [Correspondent] Valentin Ivanovich, last season was unsuccessful for your association's dredge operators insofar as they failed to fulfill the state plan. What has been done to begin the current season on time and to insure its success?

[Kisilev] This year, the enormous volume of drilling and blasting work which was planned is now being carried out; I think we are carrying out this work fairly successfully. The present volume of this work is more than three times greater than that of last year. The second major measure has been to increase the volume of repair work. The dredge fleet of the association has seen sufficient amount of wear and tear and, therefore, a colossal--in my opinion--volume of dredge fleet repair work has been planned for this year. We think that the dredges will be ready for the season on schedule and mostly ahead of schedule.

[Question] In connection with this, I would like to stress that, according to the plan, the association's first dredges are supposed to begin extracting the precious metal only in April. According to the experience of previous years, haven't certain floating gold factories begun the season considerably earlier?

[Answer] We intend to start gold extraction early this year as well. In a few days the dredging season will begin with the association's first dredge, dredge No 213 headed by Comrade Sergey Aleksandrovich Andreyevskiy, at Oktyabrskiy placer mine. It will be followed in March by dredges beginning the season ahead of schedule, including dredge No 91 at the same placer mine, and No 92, also at Oktyabrskiy placer mine. Dredges will also go into operation ahead of schedule at the Solovyevskiy and the Dambuki placer mine: This will permit us to successfully fulfill the first quarter's plan in gold extraction and give us a good start for the summer.

[Question] The last question, Valentin Ivanovich--what will characterize the work of the Amur gold miner in the fourth year of the 5-year plan as a whole, and what are its prospects?

[Answer] We must settle the debt of the past 3 years of the 5-year plan period. The spirit of the collectives, I think, is militant and industrious; this has been promoted by the decision of the CPSU Central Committee November 1978 Plenum, and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's preelection speech, in which he pointed out the large role of working collectives in the solution of current tasks.

In short, gold miners of the Amur intend to end this year with the fulfillment of their adopted pledges.

LACK OF COORDINATION HAMPERS URALS RAW MATERIALS PROGRESS

LD280931 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 22 March 1979 carries on page 2 a 1600-word article entitled "Are the Urals Exhausted?" by M. Sergeyev, first deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Academy of Sciences Urals Scientific Center and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences. It points out the failure of the mining sector to keep pace with the metallurgical sector in the Urals, with concentrate having to be brought in from "as far as afield as the Kola Peninsula." It attributes this to a concentration of old deposits, and voices the need for a "radical change" in the approach to the Urals as a raw material base. Although a start has been made in this direction, he writes, and the discovery of new deposits, the increase of old mines' reserves from plutonic beds and large titanomagnetite stocks guarantee the Urals a productive future, the development of a multicomponent Urals raw material base is being hampered by lack of coordination betwen the Ministries of Ferrous and Nonferrous Metallurgy. To remedy this problem, Sergeyev concludes, scientists propose that an interdepartmental organ be created under the USSR Gosplan.

'SUPER' GENERATORS OPEN NEW PATH IN MACHINEBUILDING

LD270917 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 March 1979 Morning Edition publishes on page 3 a 1,400-word article by Academician I. Glebov, director of the All-Union Electrical Machinebuilding Scientific Research Institute, under the heading "Alliance of the Scientist and Designer; Powerful, Economical Turbogenerators for the Country's Power Industry." The article notes that "although electric machines have been in existence for about 150 years, their production still encounters very complex scientific and technical problems." Glebov describes problems associated with cooling generators, reducing vibration and increasing unit capacity. In connection with research he notes that "we are now faced with the task of radically altering our approach to the creation of machines and organizing research on a different basis." Noting that generators of traditional design are too complex and cumbersome, he states that recent research indicates that "superconductivity will make it possible to create heavy currents and magnetic fields in the rotor. It will thereby become possible to halve the mass of electrical machinery while maintaining the same capacity or, while maintaining the same mass, of increasing unit capacity right up to 10 million kilowatts." Finally, he notes that while "superpowerful" turbogenerators will not be needed in the immediate future, "a new path in the sphere of electrical machinebuilding has nonetheless been opened."

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 27-28 MARCH

LD290634 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0000 GMT on 27 March reports that in Primorskiy Kray, where the sowing of early grain crops has begun, the farmers are using the highly productive barley strain Ussuriyskiy, which was developed by Far Eastern specialists.

At 0500 GMT on the same day the radio reports that the sowing of summer crops is ending in Stavropolskiy Kray and that the sowing of early grain crops has ended in Checheno-Ingushskaya ASSR. In spite of the variable and rainy weather in Checheno-Ingushskaya ASSR, the sowing has been carried out in the best agrotechnical periods. In Tadzhikistan the sowing of cotton has begun and in Kirgizia the sowing of sugar beet has begun. The radio adds at 0800 GMT that the sowing of early spring crops has begun in Taldy-Kurganskaya Oblast.

According to the radio at 1200 GMT several hundred thousand hectares have already been sown to cereals in Kazakhstan. In Cherkasskaya Oblast in the Ukraine, fieldwork has begun on the sugar beet plantations and farmers there have pledged to obtain over 5 million tons of root. In Brayskaya Oblast in the RSFSR the top-dressing of winter crops has begun and is due to be carried out on 180,000 hectares.

Moscow Radio reports at 1600 GMT that mass fieldwork has begun in the Chu Valley where perennial grass, barley, wheat and oats are being sown. Water is being supplied to sectors for beet and corn.

Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0100 GMT on 28 March reports that Surkhandarinskaya Oblast is the first oblast in Uzbekistan to complete the sowing of corn. Over 11,000 hectares have been sown; this is 1,500 more than last year. In Tadzhikistan the radio notes that sowing has begun in the mountain areas. In the Pamirs, fodder crops will occupy 8,000 hectares more than last year and over 290,000 hectares of irrigated land have been allocated for cotton.

The radio reports at 0205 GMT that Dzhizakskaya Oblast is the first oblast in Uzbekistan to complete the sowing of spring grain. The republic has pledged to produce over 2.5 million tons of grain this year.

According to the radio at 0500 GMT the southern rayons of Odesskaya Oblast have completed the sowing of early grain and pulse crops. In Tadzhikistan cotton sowing has begun in the Vakhsh Valley and Kulyabskaya Oblast. So far almost 12,000 hectares have been sown. The sowing of sugar beet has begun in Moldavia, where it will occupy 120,000 hectares.

Moscow Radio reports at 1600 GMT that cotton sowing has begun in south Turkmenia. Mostly fine-staple cotton is being sown in the Karakum Canal zone and the Murgab and Tedzhen valleys. Cotton production in the republic is to increase by slightly more than 150,000 tons. The radio also notes that mass sugar beet sowing has begun in Dzhambulskaya Oblast. Oblast farmers in Alma-Ata and Taldy-Kurgan are ready to begin their sowing of sugar beet. In Kazakhstan sugar beet is to be sown on 77,000 hectares more than last year. Farmers there have pledged to produce at least 2.4 million tons of beet.

At 1900 GMT the radio reports that 300,000 hectares in the Kuban have been sown with spring crops. Grain and pulse crops have been sown on half the planned area and almost all the rayons have begun fieldwork.

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

COSMONAUTS CONTINUE REPAIR WORK, TECHNICAL TESTS IN SPACE

LD281448 Moscow TASS in English 1424 GMT 28 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 28, TASS--A TASS correspondent reports from the Flight Control Centre:

Soviet Cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin have been working aboard the Salyut-6 station for 30 days now. Yesterday, the crew jointly with specialists of ground services completed the final stage of repair-prophylactic measures on the joint power unit of the station. After scavenging and vacuum treatment, the fuel tank was filled with compressed nitrogen and switched off from the fuel system. The further work of the power unit in carrying out the necessary dynamic operations will be fully ensured with fuel from two other tanks.

In accordance with the program of cooperation between the Soviet Union and France, the crew held on the Kristall unit a technical experiment with materials on the basis of rare-earth metals, submitted by the French side.

Biological experiments in the study of the development of higher plants in conditions of artificial gravitation began today aboard the scientific-research complex. The research is carried out on the Biogravistat instrument brought to the Salyut-6 station by the Progress-5 freightship.

Work in installing and testing the autonomous radio-technical Koltso system are planned to be carried out in the afternoon. The system is intended for cosmonauts' talking with each other and with operators of the Flight Control Centre. The use of tiny receivers-transmitters by every member of the crew largely increases the freedom of the cosmonauts' movement in implementing the work aboard the orbital complex.

Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin continue placing the equipment which was brought by the freight ship, controlling the operation of scientific equipment, doing physical exercises on the training apparatus and the "running" track.

According to results of the medical examination the cosmonauts are in good health. The commander's pulse is 60 and the flight engineer's 55 beats per minute. The arterial pressure is respectfully 115 by 72 and 105 by 70 millimetres of the mercury column.

The work in the near-earth orbit is going on successfully.

BRIEFS

RADIO ASTRONOMY PROJECT--Moscow, March 26, TASS--Scientists of the USSR and the FRG have discovered a strong radiation coming to the earth from the galaxy within a very narrow frequency range, a TASS correspondent was told at the Lebedev Physics Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences. In the opinion of Soviet experts, this radiation is a result of formation of new stars. At present, scientists of the two countries are studying the signals. "Galaxy and extra-galaxy radio astronomy" is the joint subject of cooperation by scientists of the USSR and the FRG. Research is done by means of two powerful telescopes--in the USSR and the FRG. In the opinion of experts these two instruments complement each other, as it were, as observation of galactic radiation can be most efficiently done from two points of the earth. It has been decided to start the cooperation of scientists of the two countries in this complex field. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 0926 GMT 26 Mar 79 LD]

BORDER TROOPS SPONSOR RALLY HAILING INVIOLABLE BORDERS

OW281316 Blagoveshchensk Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 28 Mar 79 OW

[Report by correspondent Venyamin Simonov: "Guarding the Country's Far Eastern Borders"]

[Text] Members of the voluntary people's squads from border rayons of Priamurye arrived at the rally [not further identified] as guests of the border guards. The hosts warmly welcomed the people's squad members, familiarized them with the new equipment, weapons and training and, in the evening, presented a large concert by a soldiers' amateur talent group in honor of the dear guests. The rally was held under the motto: "The motherland's borders are sacred and inviolable."

Addressing the participants, Vasiliy Yakoslevich Malafeyev, secretary of Amurskaya Obkom, said: [begin recording] The leadership of the Red Banner Far East Border District together with the obkom have decided to hold this meeting for the purpose of again drawing the attention of the party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol organs and public organizations to the necessity of intensifying organizational and political work aimed at insuring dependable defense of the state border and of training the population in the spirit of Soviet patriotism and high vigilance. [end recording]

Addressing the rally participants, Lieutenant General Krylovskiy, commander of the Red Banner Far East Border District, described the contributions of all Soviet people to the defense of the country's state border.

Colonel Kraygin, chief of the district's Political Department, described in his report the tasks of the voluntary people's squads, the close ties between the border guards and the civilian populace, and the current tasks of the border guards: [begin recording] As a result of the strengthening of the country's economic potential, the border troops have made a new, significant step in their qualitative development. Today they have modern weapons, military equipment and radio engineering and other engineering aids at their disposal. Border units and subunits are reinforced each year by competent, all-round, developed youths. The training, education and material and living conditions of the border guards have improved. All this has promoted a considerable increase in the combat readiness of units and subunits of the border troops and a more effective fulfillment of the tasks before them. [end recording]

Voluntary people's squad members Anatoliy Mikhaylovich Golovatskiy, Anatoliy Vinokurov, and Vladimir Kuzmich Streolesov described their comrades' accomplishments and their ardent efforts to protect the sacred borders of the motherland. Honorary certificates of the obkom and "outstanding member of border troops" badges were presented to a large group of voluntary people's squad members. Participants in the rally adopted an appeal to all members of voluntary people's squads and the population in the border zone, calling upon them to increase their political vigilance even more in the interest of protecting the state border.

FORMER USSR CHIEF MILITARY PROSECUTOR DIES AT 78

ID281443 [Editorial Report ID] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 March 1979 carries on page 4 a 250-word obituary of Lt Gen (ret) N.P. Afanasev, one-time USSR deputy prosecutor general and chief military prosecutor, who died in his 78th year after a long illness. Among the signatories of the article are R. A. Rudenko, S.L. Sokolov, A.A. Yepishev and M.G. Sobolev.